

WINTER 2001/2002

MAGAZINE OF THE OHIO ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

BUCKEYE

GUARD

Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom

Pull-out Supplement Inside

Called to Duty

Ohio Guardmembers deploy to
defend nation at home, overseas



Jack Hanrahan / Erie Times-News

Out to pasture

Ohio Guard pilots CW4 Don Baker (left) and CW2 Benjamin Emch climb aboard an AH-1 'Cobra' attack helicopter. The airframe was retired from Army service in September. For more, see pages 10-11.

BUCKEYE GUARD

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Guardmembers and their families are encouraged to submit any articles meant to inform, educate or entertain *Buckeye Guard* readers, including stories about interesting Guard personalities and unique unit training. E-mail us at buckeye@tagoh.org. Deadlines are:

Spring, **January 15**
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Winter, **October 15**

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TSgt Todd Cramer / 179th Airlift Wing

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FRONT: PFC Mark Kish of Charlie Company, 1-148th Infantry, hugs his wife, Regina, at the unit's send-off ceremony before deploying in October to Fort Knox, Ky. *Photo by Tom Dodge, Columbus Dispatch*



SPC Shawn Bender / 512th Engineer Battalion

Ohio Army Guard engineers supporting Task Force Grizzly in California work to repair a fence-line along the U.S.-Mexico border. See pages 18-19.

ABOUT THE COVERS

BACK: The 178th Fighter Wing's Maj Nate Thomas (left) gets help with the MiG-29 jet ejection seat trainer from a Hungarian air force counterpart. *Photo by TSgt M. Randy Dunham, 179th Airlift Wing*

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SSgt Jay Brown (left) and MSgt Jack Blevins of the 179th Airlift Wing Civil Engineering Squadron install a door during the unit's recent deployment to Canada. See pages 20-21.

We have answered the call to serve



BY MAJ GEN JOHN H. SMITH
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

Issues that seemed so important to us mere months ago have been pushed to the bottom of the list and the back of the room as National Guard soldiers and airmen answer the call in the aftermath of events of Sept. 11.

Although some reputable scholars and security experts had sounded warnings about possible catastrophes of major proportion, few, if any of us, could conceive that terrorists would attack the Pentagon and take down the World Trade Center. In the early aftermath of

these evil acts, there was much fear and anger. There is still fear and anger, but as a people and nation of great faith, we are determined not to live in fear and anger. Instead, we are resolved that our freedoms, our values, our people and our communities will be protected and that our form of democracy will prevail.

For many decades America's national interests existed in other lands, other seas and other skies. Today, however, our national interests exist here at home as well. President Bush has called on the American people; he has called on a host of other nations and peoples; and he has called on the National Guard to ensure that our freedoms and way of life remain secure for generations to come.

Throughout Ohio, soldiers and airmen of the Ohio National Guard have answered the call.

For the first time in nearly 50 years, soldiers of the 1-148th Infantry Battalion have been mobilized, for up to one year in response to Operation Noble Eagle. They are providing security at critical military/industrial/government installations across the Midwest. Army military police and Air security police from all our respective companies and squadrons also have been mobilized for Noble Eagle. Ohio Air Guard security forces squadrons have been called upon to provide protection of air assets both at home station and at deployed locations within the United States and overseas. Many of Ohio's mobilized MPs are working with their active-duty counterparts at Fort Bragg, N.C. More of our MPs are providing security in Ohio's six major airports as part of the president's request; *all* are serving long hours. The call for security forces has been enormous, and we have turned to other units to help augment the requirement. Our Army scouts responded immediately.

Air crews and aircraft maintenance folks from the 121st Air Refueling Wing have been conducting 24-hour, seven-day-a-

week operations. The 180th Fighter Wing was one of the first units to respond with F-16 aircraft in defense of America's skies, launching within minutes of receiving the call from command authority as the horrible events of Sept. 11 began to unfold.

Enduring Freedom, the worldwide response to the terrorist attacks, has also touched other units. Members of the 251st Combat Communications Group are serving a one-year tour in an important planning element of European Command's Air Operations Center, while a contingent from the 220th Engineering Installation Squadron has deployed to a classified location. Aviation, maintenance and support elements of the 121st Air Refueling Wing recently deployed for a one-year commitment in support of Central Command mission requirements in Turkey. The 121st Civil Engineering Squadron has deployed to a classified overseas location as well.

The national leadership is working diligently to sort out the issues we confront in this war on terrorism. We know it will be a protracted struggle. The Homeland Security concept will involve all of the nation's agencies and resources. Homeland Defense, the Defense Department's key piece of the pie, will address the response to actual attacks on our country, our institutions and our citizens.

The National Guard, by virtue of its unique dual role, will continue to be called upon to play a prominent role in the assignment of Homeland Defense missions. Some of those roles will be new to those of us in the Guard and, in some cases, even new to us as a nation.

Just a special word to our deployed forces and their families: The senior leadership is concerned for your personal well-being during your term of service. We will do our best to visit with you at your location, to ask you to share with us the issues that concern you and to help get answers to those concerns. Your commanders are pledged to do the same. If you need help, please ask! For family members: I believe we have an excellent Family Readiness team in place to assist as families sacrifice right along side your soldier or airman. Families may contact the Family Readiness Office by phone at (800) 589-9914 or via

the Internet at www.ohionationalguard.com, by clicking the Family Readiness tab at the bottom of the home page.

Needless to say, the Ohio National Guard's response has been immediate and most significant. For all of you that have answered the call, know that your nation and community are grateful. I fully understand the sacrifice that many of you are making to perform this service. My heart goes out to the families who are required to make sacrifices as well.

I would like to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of our commanders and staff personnel who worked long and hard to ensure those soldiers, airmen and families were provided immediate and important support during the mobilization period. Requirements that no one expected were thrust upon us as we closed out the fiscal year. I would say that what has pleased me most is the tremendous cooperation and teamwork that, to me, is the trademark of this great Ohio National Guard. ■

President Bush...has called
on the National Guard to
ensure that our freedoms and
way of life remain secure for
generations to come.

Citizens can send mail to deployed guardmembers

As a service project, the families in our religious education program at St. Barnabas Church in Northfield, Ohio, have written postcards to the men and women in the Ohio National Guard, offering our thoughts and prayers for those who are involved in Operation Noble Eagle. Our local paper, *The News Leader*, ran an article that stated the postcards would be accepted at the following address:

*Operation Noble Eagle
37th Armor Brigade
4094 Sullivant Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43228*

Before we address the postcards, I wanted to make sure that we have the correct information and also that the postcards would be forwarded to those in service to the Ohio National Guard. We have not written to anyone specific and I am under the assumption that these postcards will be given to anyone who would most like to receive a message from home. Please let me know if any of my information is incorrect. I appreciate your assistance in this matter. Thank you and God Bless America.

SUSAN SIMENC
NORTHFIELD, OHIO

The address is correct, and postcards (no sealed packages) are still being accepted. Even though the holidays have passed, deployed guardmembers would

still enjoy getting mail from patriotic, concerned citizens. Mail will be accepted throughout the duration of the guardmembers' deployment, although no return date has been announced as of this printing. Original orders said Ohio Guardmembers could be deployed for up to one year, through this fall.



"The Gulf War: 10 years later" appears in the Winter 2000/2001 issue of the *Buckeye Guard*, pages 20-22.

Homecoming photo perfect gift

I am the girl on the front inside cover of the Winter 2000/2001 *Buckeye Guard* ("The Gulf War, 10 years later," p. 20-22). That picture is of my mother, Master Sgt. Ava Green of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, and I when she came back from Desert Storm.

When she saw the picture she was very honored that you chose that picture for your magazine.

She has since retired and is doing very well. My mother and I can not get that picture anywhere. So if you have the negative or the actual picture, my mother and I would like to have a copy. The reason my mother is not writing is because this is a surprise for Christmas. I would like to blow it up and frame it.

LEXI PLATTE
CINCINNATI

Lexi:

A copy of the photo was mailed to you well before Christmas so you could surprise your mother.

Yours is the type of photo we hope to be taking plenty of soon, when Ohio Army and Air Guardmembers return home safely from Operations Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom.

Veterans have saint when it comes to benefits

Shawnee State University is blessed to have a veterans coordinator that really cares about her job. University veterans know that they will receive all entitlements they have earned while serving their country in the armed forces.

Sitting in her office, day after day, Faye Logan deals with a government agency that is slow to pay, inundated with paperwork and regu-

lated by strict enforcement of policies and procedures.

For 15 years, Faye Logan has dedicated her life serving the people that volunteer to protect this great country before attending this institution. She is respected by the school administration and community leaders. Veterans who attend this institution and counselors of surrounding high schools know that Faye Logan will provide them with expert guidance and solid information in the arena of military education benefits.

As a recruiter in the Ohio Army National Guard, I am required to develop Centers of Influence (COIs) to assist in recruiting efforts. Faye Logan is my most important community representative. She provides recently discharged veterans with educational information about the Army National Guard that can double their current entitlements.

Finally, every November Shawnee State University celebrates Veterans Day with ceremonies and events in Portsmouth. Faye Logan is a central figure in the success of this event. She spends numerous hours making sure all veterans within the community are recognized and acknowledged for their selfless service to this country.

The more than 200 veterans that attend Shawnee State University are grateful that Faye Logan is their veterans coordinator. They know that they are receiving all benefits and entitlements guaranteed to them for their service to their county.

SFC ROBERT M. FLOREK
OHARNG RECRUITING COMMAND

BG seeks guardmembers who served in Korean War

In the future, the *Buckeye Guard* staff will be writing an article on the Ohio Army National Guard's involvement in the Korean War to commemorate the event's 50th anniversary.

The staff is looking for former Ohio Army Guardmembers who served during the war, either overseas or state-side, and would be willing to be interviewed for the article.

If you are interested, please provide your contact information by e-mail to buckeye@tagoh.org, call (614) 336-7003 or write a letter to us at the address at the top of page one.

BUCKEYE GUARD STAFF

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

Historical Highlights



On May 17, 1942, one week before the 37th Infantry Division went overseas in World War II, Jeannette McDonald, a popular film star of the day, dedicated a new song to the 148th Infantry Regiment. *Keep a Light Burning Bright* was adopted as the official regimental song after new lyrics were written by a soldier in the unit. **RETIRED JUDGE (COL.) ROBERT D. WALKER / 37TH INFANTRY DIVISION**



MSgt Keith Reed / U.S. Air Force

SSgt Rene Delarosa, a C-17A Globemaster III loadmaster from the 17th Airlift Squadron at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C., holds up the two millionth humanitarian daily ration (HDR) to be air-dropped Nov. 30 over Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

War will continue until Americans can conduct 'their lives without fear'

Pointing out that the al-Qaida terrorist network crosses more than 50 countries, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said the task is to go after it, and the Taliban, "until Americans can go about their lives without fear."

"We didn't start the war, the terrorists started it when they attacked the United States, murdering more than 5,000 innocent Americans," Rumsfeld said. "The Taliban, an illegitimate, unelected group of terrorists started it when they invited the al-Qaida into Afghanistan and turned their country into a base from which those terrorists could strike out and kill our citizens."

As the campaign against terrorism marches on, coalition forces continue strikes against Taliban and al-Qaida targets throughout Afghanistan, the secretary said.

"Our goal is not to reduce or simply contain terrorist acts, but is to deal with it comprehensively," he said. "We don't intend to stop until we've rooted out terrorist networks and put them out of business. Not just in the case of the Taliban and al-Qaida in Afghanistan, but other networks as well."

But Rumsfeld reiterated that eradicating worldwide terrorism wouldn't happen overnight. "It's a marathon, not a sprint," he said. "It will be years, not weeks or months."

Victory will not come without a cost, he said. "(War is) ugly. It causes misery, suffering and death, and we see that every day," Rumsfeld said. "Brave people give their lives for this cause. Needless to say, innocent bystanders can be caught in the crossfire."

As a nation that lost thousands of innocent civilians on Sept. 11, we understand what it means to lose fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, sons and daughters."

But no nation in history has done more to avoid civilian casualties than the United States, he said. "Every day in the midst of war, Americans risk their lives to deliver humanitarian assistance and alleviate the suffering of the Afghan people," Rumsfeld said.

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

DoD set to re-examine anthrax vaccine issue

The Department of Defense will look at ways to kick-start U.S. production of anthrax vaccine that, up to now, has been manufactured by just one company in Michigan, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said.

Rumsfeld remarked that DoD is going to try to save its anthrax vaccine program with the manufacturer, Biopart. He noted that other efforts to produce anthrax vaccine for the U.S. military had "failed over a period of years."

Biopart was DoD's sole contractor for anthrax vaccine. The company has had quality control problems and hasn't produced any vaccine for some time. Its manufacturing operations currently lack Food and Drug Administration approval.

Officials said DoD has anthrax vaccine on hand to meet anticipated military needs.

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Reservist's legal victory supports deployment rights

In a precedent-setting case for reservists, a U.S. district court judge in Louisiana signed a judgment favoring an Army Reserve soldier who suffered financial ruin while deployed to Bosnia.

The court found that the rights of Lt. Col. Stewart Cathey were violated under the

Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act when his bank refused to lower his interest rate to 6 percent when he deployed in 1996.

"This case has far-reaching implications," said Lt. Col. Paul E. Conrad, legal counsel, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve. "The court has made clear that creditors cannot ignore requests by reservists to reduce their interest rates on loans and obligations, when properly presented upon activation, or they could face lawsuits for a refund of wrongfully charged interest."

The judgment allows Cathey to pursue his case against the bank in a civil trial. Cathey filed suit after the bank foreclosed on two convenience stores the reservist owned when he deployed.

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act allows servicemembers to suspend or postpone some civil obligations so that they can devote their full attention to military duties.

The Act protects servicemembers by providing reduced interest rates on mortgage payments, credit card debt and other individual loans or obligations; protection from eviction if rent is less than \$1,200; and a delay in all civil court actions such as bankruptcy, foreclosure and divorce proceedings, to name a few.

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Army aviation joins flight in service's transformation

The Army aviation field is in flight toward transformation, but as long as technology keeps improving, senior leadership says an end-state is nowhere in sight.

Aviation has been leading the Army's transformation to an objective force, said Lt. Col. Michael Courts, the Comanche systems synchronization officer for Deputy Chief of Staff for Programs-Force Division Aviation.

It began with the retirement of Vietnam-era aircraft (see article on retirement of the Cobra helicopter, pages 10-11), planned recapitalization and modernization of interim airframes, and continued development of the RAH-66 Comanche, Courts said. In addition to equipment, he added, aviation is developing doctrine, organizations and training programs that support the objective force.

The Army's aircraft fleet by 2004 will consist of UH-60 Black Hawks, Apache helicopters, CH-47 Chinooks OH-58D Kiowa Warrior aircraft, followed by procurement of RAH-66 Comanches beginning in 2006.

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Faces in the Guard



Pvt. 1st Class Steven Dyer

Light Vehicle Mechanic

Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2-107th Cavalry, Kettering

Not just a skilled craftsman with the wrench and other mechanic's implements, Dyer strives to be a well-rounded soldier and person. During training year 2001, Dyer was the unit's outstanding performer on the annual Army Physical Fitness Test. He is currently studying dance at Ohio State University, where he also works on the school-run dairy farm. Dyer has an associate's degree from Sinclair Community College in Dayton.

Master Sgt. Robin Myers

Finance Computer Assistant

121st Air Refueling Wing, Columbus

The desire to have a successful career inspired Myers to join the Air Guard 16 years ago. Myers initially signed up to take advantage of the tuition assistance program and earn a sociology degree from Ohio State, but said she has stayed in for many reasons, including opportunities to travel the world and meet new people. She enjoys spending time with her husband, Mike, also an Air Guardmember, and their daughters, Lauren, 13, and Erin, 10.



Sgt. Jay Gillon

Bridge Crewchief

1193rd Engineer Company (Panel Bridge), Cincinnati

A 12-year veteran of the Ohio National Guard, Gillon has served nearly the last seven with the 1193rd. The military has grown on the Cincinnati native, and he has re-enlisted twice. In addition to being trained as a bridge crewchief, Gillon—the unit's NCO of the year for 2001—has completed the Army's tank hull mechanic and TOW gunner schools. Gillon plans to finish his bachelor's degree at the University of Cincinnati.

Senior Airman Ryan Hupp

Weather Forecaster

164th Weather Flight, Columbus

The military has been and continues to be a tradition in Hupp's family. Born at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, Hupp returned there two decades later for basic training after joining the Ohio Air Guard about two years ago. Currently a student at Columbus State, he enjoys weight lifting in his spare time. In keeping with the family tradition, Hupp's teen-aged sister, Adrion, plans to join the Air Guard when she is old enough.



Spc. Mary Cornell

Intelligence Analyst

237th Personnel Services Battalion, Columbus

Unmatched educational benefits, the opportunity to learn an interesting skill and the prestige of serving in the Army were reasons why Cornell said she joined the Ohio Army Guard two years ago. While at annual training last summer at Fort Dix, N.J., Cornell was distinguished honor graduate of her Nuclear, Biological, Chemical (NBC) Defense class. In her spare time, she enjoys kayaking, backpacking and adventure racing.

COLUMBUS

Command profile



CCMSgt Richard A. (Dick) Smith

Headquarters, Ohio Air National Guard

Age: 50

Traditional Guard Position:

State Command Chief Master Sergeant
for the Ohio Air National Guard

Full-Time Occupation: real estate

investor and retired bank officer

Hometown: I was born in Zanesville

but my home is now in Lexington

Family: wife, Debbie; and children,

Richie, 19 (currently a cadet at the
U.S. Air Force Academy), and Katie,

12 (currently in the sixth grade)

The last good movie I saw was:

Animal House (I keep watching it)

The book I'm reading is: *Honor*

Bound...POW stories

from 1963 to 1974

My most prized possession is:

my family

Heroes: World War II veterans

Nobody knows I'm: not as cheap as

my friends think I am

I'm better than anyone else at:

cutting my own grass

I'd give anything to meet:

Harry Truman

Three words that best describe me:

honest, thrifty and compassionate

If I could leave today's guard-

members with one piece

of advice it would be: The more

YOU contribute to the Guard and

America, the more YOU benefit

as an individual and an American

Satisfying the need for **SPEED**

Story by Sgt. J.R. Lewis
HQ STARC (-)

Simply put, Chip Henderson loves to go fast. He loves driving his Porsche 944 Turbo around race tracks with other speed freaks. He loves cruising on winding country roads in his Mercedes.

"I can only drive the Porsche on the open road for a day or two. I don't have a radar detector," Henderson said.

And he loves flying helicopters for the Ohio Army National Guard.

When he's not flying helicopters or performing administrative/executive officer duties for the 2-107th Calvary Squadron, headquartered in Kettering, Maj. Henderson is thinking about, preparing for or driving his 1986 Porsche 944 in races sanctioned by the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA). The organization counts nearly 500 members in the Ohio Valley region alone.

Henderson said he races in road track events—at places like Mid Ohio Raceway in Lexington—or timed conecourse competitions, which are "kind of like racing in a downhill slalom ski event...what could be better than taking your car out into a parking lot and running it as fast as you can get it to go?"

Just as there are two types of races in which he competes, Henderson believes there are two types of racers.

"There are guys who like to show off their cars and the group that I belong to that like to get in them and go fast," Henderson said. "I'm not so concerned about my paint job. I'm more worried about how fast I can take a corner."

Henderson has familiarized himself with the capabilities and maintenance of his Porsche with the same attention to detail he uses in flying helicopters.

He believes there is a strong connective line between the PMCS (Preventative Maintenance Checks and Services) of his chopper and the hours he spends tuning the engine, checking the fluids and fixing the brakes of his German sports car.

"When you brake from 130 mph down to 50 to take a corner with cars in front of you, behind you and on both sides,

you don't want anything to go wrong."

In the air, Henderson said going fast means going smoothly. The easier the ride, the more successful he considers the flight (a sentiment undoubtedly shared by his passengers).

"Flying should be smooth and gentle," he said.

On the racetrack, speed equals violence and being gentle means being the last car across the finish line.

"You're either on the brake or on the gas," Henderson said. "It can be a very violent thing."

"But whether you're flying low above the trees or on a race track, you're still looking for accuracy and precision."

It's fairly easy to tell exactly how badly addicted someone is to going fast. It's all in the voice. Ask Henderson about driving in the races he runs his Porsche in yearly, and the excitement in his voice is akin to a child after his first ride on a motorcycle...or a roller coaster.

"It's like a roller coaster ride without the rails," is one of his most-used expressions. Then ask him about the long months of late autumn and winter, when there are no races to enter, no way to just "forget about everything and drive for awhile." His response, which will most certainly entail



Henderson

spending long hours in the garage getting the Porsche ready for the spring, has the familiar tone of a child being told "no."

Henderson's love of racing fast cars seems to prove Einstein's theory that says if something can go fast enough it will travel back in time.

For Henderson, the mental trip back in time includes growing up with a father who shared a passion for performance automobiles.

Ironically, his father's job as an Ohio State Highway Patrol Trooper entailed busting speeders, while his passion for NASCAR drew him to fast cars in his off time.

Henderson and his dad found a common bond in the garage and worked to restore a 1960 MGA.

Despite the country's current loving relationship with the Brits, Henderson draws the line in the realm of automobiles.

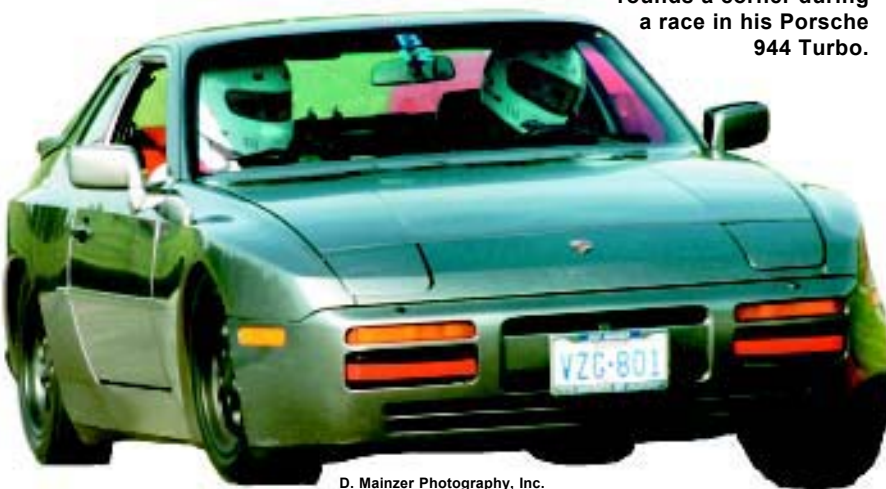
"After I got married, my father kind of gave me the MGA," Henderson recalled.

"I tinker with it from time to time. It's British, so it's temperamental."

Tinkering with cars and serving in the Army have come to occupy Henderson's life in ways that he can't fully express into words, but the proof is visible in the way he flies—both in the air and on the ground.

"As a kid, I wanted to be a race car driver," Henderson said. "I dearly love the Army, but I have a passion for auto racing." ■

Chip Henderson (right) rounds a corner during a race in his Porsche 944 Turbo.



D. Mainzer Photography, Inc.

Partnership with Hungary

By Steve Toth
Adjutant General's Dept.
Public Affairs Office

Military bond endures, forges ahead into future

Although the Ohio National Guard's partnership with the Hungarian military has spanned nearly a decade, it is evident from recent training exercises that the relationship is not waning.

Quite the contrary, the Ohio-Hungary union—originally mandated when the National Guard Bureau established the State Partnership Program partnership in 1993—is moving past the mutual familiarization stage, and on to opportunities for advanced joint training between the two militaries.

In one of the larger exchanges in the history of the partnership—an operation dubbed *Buckeye One*—more than 100 Ohio Air Guardmembers deployed for two weeks in August to air bases in Taszar and Kecskemet, Hungary. The deployment was accompanied by a separate weeklong visit by high-ranking Ohio Guard leadership, civic leaders and federal legislative staffers.

Buckeye One was designed to allow F-16 "Fighting Falcon" jet aircraft pilots from the 178th Fighter Wing, Springfield, to conduct air combat tactics against Hungarian air force pilots and their MiG-29 jet fighters. In addition, members of the Hungarian Defense Forces were able to observe KC-135 "Stratotanker" air-to-air refueling operations.

"Ten years ago, there's no way we would be here. And now that we can be here and offer the hand of friendship, and share information—it's really given me pause," said Col. E.J. Thomas, director of operations for Headquarters, Ohio Air National Guard, and *Buckeye One* deployment commander. "When we used to learn about the planes we're flying against, it was in a classified briefing."

In another facet of the exercises, nearly a dozen U.S. pilots flew as passengers in the Russian-built MiG-29s while an equal number of Hungarian pilots flew in the U.S. F-16s. Supplementing air combat



Steve Toth / AGOH-Public Affairs

Roderick G.W. Chu (left) and Hungarian BG Imre Balogh examine a MiG-29.

training operations, a C-130 "Hercules" cargo aircraft crew from the 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield, flew several missions while in Hungary, including one to Germany and another to Italy to pick up spare parts for the F-16s. In addition, they flew three missions to Kecskemet, nearly 120 miles west of Taszar.

"I trust what we leave behind will



TSgt M. Randy Dunham / 179th Airlift Wing

be of assistance in ensuring the Hungarians will be best able to execute their own military and defense agendas,” Thomas said. “The mission is an excellent opportunity for members of both countries to learn more about each other’s armed forces, to share valuable training, logistics and flying operations information, and to develop personal relationships that will be of great help should a defense contingency arise that requires our respective teams to work together.”

More than 20 U.S. states have volunteered for the role and responsibility of creating and maintaining long-term relationships with the fledgling democracies of central and eastern Europe, and the recently independent nations of the former Soviet Union.

Participants in the civic leader trip were provided with an in-depth look at the State Partnership Program and its impact on countries recently enter-



Steve Toth / AGOH-Public Affairs

ing the NATO family. One goal of the trip was to increase the knowledge of key government officials as well as leaders in the community and other societal institutions. Trip participant Roderick G.W. Chu, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents—

which oversees higher education in the state—said he went away from the trip with a greater appreciation and better understanding of the roles of Ohio’s citizen-soldiers and airmen.

“I was impressed by how much the guardmembers really enjoyed what they were doing,”

Call me ‘Uncle Toli’

Story by Tech. Sgt. M. Randy Dunham
179th Airlift Wing

Senior Master Sgt. Toli Obrynba carried the duffle-bag-sized package onto the C-130 with the care and caution normally reserved for the most delicate cargo.

He opted not to palletize the precious parcel, keeping it between his feet for the two-day trip. It had to make the 5,000-mile trip in one piece, without any damage.

The 179th Airlift Wing member wasn’t carrying fragile aircraft parts or sensitive computer software for his part in the Hungarian deployment coined “Buckeye One.” Obrynba was carrying a ball bat neatly wrapped in newspaper, a few balls, a handmade blanket, some T-shirts, other toys and some money.

It was delicate cargo for a family he’d never met, but had always known—through God.

The strangers who were his “family” in Bekesszentandris, Hungary, had lived in the United States for several years while the father, Augoston Dobos, attended the Ashland Theological Seminary. While here, the Dobos became good friends with several local church parishioners and kept

that friendship even after they returned to Hungary. The local church decided to sponsor them as a “foster” family.

Departure from the states was difficult, especially for Augoston’s children who knew the United States as home. “But, he is a revival minister,” said Obrynba. “And he felt his calling was to return to Hungary and help resurrect Christianity.”

After Hungary fell under communist rule following World War II, Christianity there virtually ceased to exist. Anyone daring to practice religion would do it only at clandestine gatherings for fear of reprisal from the government. But following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, Hungary developed close ties with Western Europe.

“Augoston knew his place was in Hungary,” Obrynba said. “He packed up his children and returned to his homeland.”

Obrynba learned about the Dobos family through mutual friends in his church.

“I was on a mission to find this man (during the deployment),” he said. “I had never seen him, met him or talked to him. But, I knew I’d find him.” After a few days, Obrynba actually made contact with Dobos. “I found a number and got ahold of him,” he said. “We told each other where we were and realized we were about five hours apart, by car. It seemed we might not be able to meet. But, then he mentioned he was going to Budapest to take his pregnant wife to a specialist, and we agreed to meet there.”

However, in a series of events Obrynba attributes to God listening to his prayers, the pair would meet by chance in a city where neither had planned to be.

Several members of the 179th were invited to attend an air show at the 59th Air Base in Kecskemet, a central Hungarian city about 120 miles from Taszar. After several hours at the base, everyone was bused into the city to eat at the local McDonald’s. While standing in line at the restaurant, Obrynba

overheard a conversation between one of his fellow airmen and a native.

“Michelle Walker was in line and someone asked her in very good English, where she was from,” Obrynba said. “She said Ohio. He said he knew where that was. I was only kind of listening because I was in my own little world, kind of daydreaming. But then, I heard him say he attended the Ashland Theological Seminary.



SMSGT Larry Wilson / 179th AW

SMSGT Toli Obrynba

LEFT: COL Sandor Pinter (from left), BG Imre Balogh and MAJ Lajos Bocz accompany Maj Gen John H. Smith and Ohio ESGR Executive Director Bill Allen on a tour of the 59th Air Base at Kecskemet. THIS PICTURE: Maj Nate Thomas prepares for a flight in a Hungarian MiG-29.



TSGT Brian Schaefer / 179th Fighter Wing

He said that, in fact, he was supposed to meet someone from Ohio in Budapest. Just as he was saying my name, I turned around. He saw my name tag and exclaimed 'It's you. I'm supposed to meet you in Budapest.' So, there we were, having never met, not even supposed to be in that city, meeting for the first time."

Obrynba said the meeting wasn't, in his books, by chance.

"I think it was the good Lord tapping me on the head reminding me he can hear my prayers and that he does listen," he said.

Obrynba didn't have the care package with him, so the two finalized plans for the meeting in Budapest. For the next couple days, Obrynba was excited and anxious.

When he finally did meet the Dobos family, his expectations were met and exceeded. "I plan to 'adopt' them myself," he said. "A minister in Hungary doesn't make a lot of money. I want to do what I can to help them out." He said the children—two girls and one boy—spoke excellent English and Hungarian. Their friendship was immediately sealed. And the children filled a special part of Obrynba's heart that had been empty since his daughter, Amy, died in an automobile accident in 1991.

"They called me Uncle Toli," he said. "The one thing I always valued in my life was hearing my daughter call me 'Dad.' I don't hear that anymore. Hearing those kids call me Uncle Toli really touched my heart. It made everything worthwhile."■

Chu said. "They took great pride in doing their jobs and doing them well—a highly professional and enthusiastic cadre of individuals.

"It's now clear to me how integral the Guard's role is in the entire defense makeup of the U.S. armed forces, something I really didn't appreciate prior to the trip."

Col. Richard Green, 179th Airlift Wing commander, stressed the importance of gaining support from elected officials, as well as other institutional and community leaders. One such way to increase support is through educational trips like the one to Hungary so "they can really see what (the Guard's) mission is," he said. "We (guardmembers) want to make sure our local, state and federal (leaders) are informed. We feel if they are informed, they will be there to support us when we need it."

Trip participants also met with Hungarian governmental and military leadership in Budapest, the country's capital. One future goal of the Hungarian military is the development of a community-based, reserve component military entity—much like the National Guard.

According to Bela Kiraly, advisor to the office of the prime minister, Hungary is developmentally behind in regard to reserve training. "We are working to establish a National Guard," said Kiraly, a military veteran who took part in the

1956 Hungarian revolt against Soviet rule. "The United States has been our great helper in accomplishing this, with (financial, technical and moral) support.

"The big problem is the armament of our military. We (currently) have the Soviet style. The rearmament of our armed forces is still a few years away."

Maj. Gen. John H. Smith, Ohio adjutant general, said the purpose of the Buckeye One deployment and accompanying civic leader trip was to reaffirm the Ohio Guard's commitment to the Hungarian Defense Forces. Smith said a focused "long-term engagement plan" over the next few years will help identify areas and needs for future Ohio-Hungary exchanges, and maximize the opportunities for relevant training.

"I feel very strongly about this relationship," Smith said. "There is much we can offer Hungary, and there also is much we can learn from the Hungarians.

"I think with the development of a plan, we (Ohio and Hungary) are more likely to see the benefits and progress that we both desire."

While Hungary already has achieved an initial benefit of being partnered with Ohio—that of receiving guidance, preparing for and ultimately gaining membership into NATO in 1999—there are still many opportunities for expanded exchanges and development of further programs that haven't been explored, according to leadership on both sides.

One such area may be modeling the civilian and military education systems of the Hungarian Defense Forces after that of the U.S. military, Chu suggested.

"The briefing I had with representatives of the Hungarian Defense Education Department suggests that we have a lot we can share with the Hungarians," Chu said. "They are building their version of our service academies to provide undergraduate and technical education to a small number of their future active-duty forces.

"As the Hungarians consider instituting a National Guard model of their own, they may benefit from learning from the wonderful success of our Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program and its contributions to developing a fully staffed, highly educated and committed complement of guardmembers."■

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Tech. Sgt. M. Randy Dunham, 179th Airlift Wing, contributed to this article.*

Aircraft modernization puts

Story by Spc. Michelle Morgan
HQ STARC (-)

The AH-1 “Cobra” flew its final Ohio Army National Guard mission, soaring out of Ohio Sept. 19. The old war horse was racing to greener pastures, to its retirement home in New York, and many members of the 2-107th Cavalry Squadron said they were sad to see it go.

From Vietnam to Desert Storm and beyond, the Cobra distinguished itself and, as far as many of the pilots who flew it were concerned, there was none better.

“The Cobra was the first true attack helicopter,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Gary Adkins, F Troop officer-in-charge, maintenance officer and Cobra test pilot. “It had high-speed accuracy capable of attacking multiple targets.”

As part of Army aviation modernization, the Cobra attack helicopter was officially retired from service Army-wide this past September. Coupled with the planned retirement of the UH-1 “Huey” utility helicopter by October 2004, the Army will reduce its fleet from 4,500 to 3,500 aircraft, including a reduction of 600 in the reserve components.

From its inception in the 1960s, the helicopter was awesome, according to many of the Ohio Guard pilots who’ve flown it. The sleek, slender airframe—only 36 inches wide—made it hard to detect in combat situations. It was capable of hovering and hiding between the trees, to wait for the enemy. Once spotted, the Cobra could dive after the enemy while firing, then roll out to locate its next target.

“It was a major combat multiplier...of all the assets you could use against the enemy, it was the quickest, easiest way to get fire power into any area,” said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Samuel McKinney, 2-107th Cavalry Squadron standardization instructor pilot who also saw action in Vietnam. “We could take off from land or a ship, and those helicopters would perform for us beyond what they should. As a pilot, you couldn’t help but love the Cobra because once you became acclimated to all of its characteristics, it became part of you.”

Designed much like a fighter plane in



Todd Cramer / AG Dept. Photo Lab

CW2 Bryant Orr prepares to board his AH-1 Cobra helicopter for the final time.

that the pilots sit tandem—one in front of the other instead of side-by-side—the Cobra was an impressive sight sitting quiet in a hangar, let alone bearing down on a target.

“You knew you were in a war machine from the minute you entered the helicopter,” said Maj. Chip Henderson, 2-107th administrative/executive officer.

The Cobra had two primary functions according to Henderson—observation scout and tank killer.

Over the years, the AH-1 was modified as technology changed. The telescopic sight on the front was capable of identifying and engaging targets more than 4,000 meters away. Equipped with 20-millimeter guns, direct fire weapons, rocket pods, area fire weapons and TOW (Tube-launched, Optically-sighted Wire-guided) missiles, “the Cobra had awesome stand-off capability—you could shoot them (the enemy) farther away than they could shoot you. Often, a tank wouldn’t even know it was engaged by a

Cobra to rest



Jack Hanrahan / Erie Times-News



Todd Cramer / AG Dept. Photo Lab

ABOVE: A Cobra helicopter lands at the Lord Corp. in Erie, Pa. The Lord Corp. was manufacturer of many parts for the air frame. LEFT: Troop E, 2-107th Cavalry Squadron's CW2 John Harkin (left) and CW2 Bryant Orr discuss the route for the Ohio Army Guard's last Cobra flight.

ment, the Cobra was the helicopter of choice for the pilots from the 2-107th. In mid- to high-threat situations, though, even a veteran like McKinney with a distinct affection for the airframe saw the need for modernization.

"With the state of warfare today, the Army needs helicopters with better weapons systems and electronic capabilities," he said. "The Army wants fewer helicopters that are capable of much more than the retiring Cobra."

Unfortunately, the 2-107th members are unsure when permanent replacement aircraft will be sent or what they will be.

OH-58 observation helicopters were sent to the Army Aviation Support Facility No. 1 at North Canton as temporary replacements for the retiring Cobra. The OH-58s will allow pilots to fly the required hours to sustain their qualification and the mechanics to perform their maintenance mission. ■

Cobra until it exploded," Henderson quipped.

However, the Cobra, while venerable, was an aging war horse. Many of the airframes dated back to Vietnam. As the military increased the number of modern aircraft which cost less to maintain, the manufacturer stopped making replacement parts for the Cobra, which led to the eventual grounding of the aircraft.

In any low- to mid-threat environ-

Special Mission

Traffic on West 12th Street in Erie, Pa., slowed to a crawl for a few minutes one day last year as drivers watched a Cobra attack helicopter make a low pass over the highway, circle Lord Corp. twice and then come down amid a swirl of dust in the company's parking lot.

The Cobra was in town for a special mission—to let company workers see their handiwork.

Lord Corp. makes 13 parts for the Cobra, the world's first dedicated attack helicopter, and machinist Walter Lego could spot many of them.

"That thing up there that looks like a bicycle frame, that's one of them," he said pointing to an area by the helicopter rotor.

Lego was among a crowd of 50 employees who walked to the craft as soon as the rotors stopped moving and the pilot, Ohio Army National Guard Chief Warrant Officer 2 Benjamin Emch, opened the cockpit and waved an "all clear."

The helicopter and crew stayed a few hours, allowing workers to visit at the craft as their shifts and schedules allowed.

Most people wouldn't recognize the parts local workers make—pitch link rod ends, trunnion bearings, tension-torsion straps, mast springs, landing gear straps, pylon and panel mounts. But Chief Warrant Officer 4 Donald Baker, the other pilot of the Cobra, knew exactly what they were.

"Some of those parts are small, but a lot of them are important—real important," he said. "Some of them hold the whole rotor up there."

"We are really happy they could bring it (the helicopter) in. We don't often get a chance to see a lot of the products we make," said Mark Rose, manager of the West 12th Street plant.

"We take great pride in the quality of our products," Rose said. "This visit will allow Lord employees to see the application...of the parts we make."

"This is what Lord is all about," said Harry Ross, an employee and president of the Local 1968, one of two machinists' union locals that represent Lord Corp. workers in Erie.

"This is nice. This is pretty neat," said Bill Galleur, president of the other machinist labor group, Local 1211. "I'll bet we have something, some part, on just about every helicopter they have."

Most parts that Lord Corp. employees create help to stabilize the craft, and control noise and vibration.

Employees heard that this particular Cobra was made in 1988, and saw action in the Gulf War.

Emch, a Lord Corp. employee and member of Troop D, 2-107th Cavalry Squadron, North Canton, held court alongside the craft, "talking shop" with employees—explaining the parts, capability and armament on the ship, and talking about his experience flying it. **JIM CARROLL / ERIE TIMES-NEWS**



On a team leader's voice commands, military police soldiers practice advancing techniques, using batons to help control unruly crowds.

Ready for Urban Warfare

Story and photos by Sgt. J.R. Lewis
HQ STARC (-)

With all the uncertainty facing the future of military operations at home and abroad, military leadership and analysts alike agree on one thing—large, sweeping military engagements such as those seen on D-Day in Normandy and the landing at Inchon are for the history books.

The concept of Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) will guide all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces into the new millennium. This includes the National Guard, which is meeting the future head-on.

With this in mind, members of the 324th Military Police Company, Middletown, descended on the Close Quarters Battle (CQB) training area at the Warren County Correctional Facility near Lebanon. The purpose was to school soldiers in the latest civil disturbance and Special Reaction Team (SRT) training.

The CQB area, surrounded by a fortress of unharvested corn stalks behind the correctional facility, provided the MPs with a two-pronged training benefit, according to Capt. Rudolph

Pringle, commanding officer of the 324th.

"These types of hands-on exercises take unit cohesion to another level," Pringle said. "At the same time, we're providing the unit and National Guard with an excellent retention tool."

The unit maximized training time by running the civil disturbance and SRT training simultaneously.

The civil disturbance training consisted of teams of riot gear-clad soldiers defending positions and attempting to control an unruly mob, played by other soldiers in the unit. There were three different scenarios: protecting a building; protecting a fence-line; and working to control a rioting mob with no clear objective.

The rioters threw water balloons, hurled insults and taunts at the MPs, and rushed the arching wall of riot-controllers in an attempt to break ranks and incite confusion in the defending soldiers. At the same time, the line of MPs advanced forward in unison, striking with their batons on each movement, and slowly plowed into the crowd to the chanted commands from a team leader behind the line.

"The biggest thing for the opposing force (OPFOR) is to be belligerent and show resistance while trying to break through the lines," said Cadet Brandon Skiver, a platoon leader with the 324th.

While the training called for a certain amount of physical contact

Middletown MPs conduct civil disturbance, special reaction team training at Warren County Correctional Facility

between the MPs and the soldiers acting as rioters, safety was a key concern.

"The biggest challenge of a civil disturbance exercise is striking a balance between safety and realism," said 2nd Lt. Amy Hill, a platoon leader with the 324th. "The water balloons aren't as realistic as the rocks these soldiers could face, but at least the soldiers have a taste of what to expect in a real-world civil disturbance. This is training for real-world policing missions, getting away from training soldiers for huge, land-based ground wars."

Controlling and manipulating large groups of unruly citizens requires the use of not only protective gear and batons, but also gas dispensers, which were filled with water for the exercise.

The MPs also practiced "cuffing and stuffing" rioters who broke through the lines, and filling in gaps left by soldiers who left the line to subdue rioters.

After repeatedly running through each scenario, the MPs conducted an after-action report to determine the strengths and weaknesses of the tactics employed.

A short distance away from the simulated mayhem, soldiers broken down into SRTs armed themselves with paintball guns, preparing to cross a small field through a hail of sniper fire to take on an enemy nestled inside of a CQB facility. The facility simulates a building held by an OPFOR, with the roof removed for observation and videotaped review.

The SRT/CQB exercise blended the tactics of civilian SWAT teams and MOUT-driven practices employed by the military, according to Sgt. Rory O'Donnell, a team leader with the 324th.

"The mission is to save lives, not to kill everything alive inside of the building," O'Donnell said.

The four-man SRT teams entered the building and engaged the OPFOR room-by-room, until the entire building was secured.

Teamwork was essential to the SRT/CQB training, with soldiers maintaining discipline with hand and arm signals for each movement.

"Good communication is crucial in there, not only to secure the building, but to prevent fratricide," O'Donnell said.

Muzzle-awareness was a key aspect in the training, along with establishing clear lines of engagement, called phase lines. The SRTs were constantly reminded to keep their weapons pointed along their visual path, employ tactical angles to reduce body exposure to enemy fire, and always have at least two members of a team in each room.

"Two men are needed, three is perfect," O'Donnell told the soldiers in a pre-exercise briefing. "The first two enter the room with the third covering from behind."

While certain tactics, policies and mission requirements necessitated the MPs to function "by the book," the building's lay-out and the shifting scenarios in real-world situations ensure that the soldiers employ great amounts of



Part of a four-man special reaction team, SGT Darrin Kingler works to clear and secure a building belonging to enemy forces.

flexibility. "These are the most fluid tactics available," O'Donnell said. "That's why we do the training. If it doesn't work, we change it. Tactics may be different, but the end result should be the same."

Videotaping each scenario and conducting AARs allowed each soldier to view his or her strengths and weaknesses from a bird's-eye view and provided opportunities for each MP to improve SRT techniques. "We give each soldier a chance to practice in the (CQB) facility several times until they get it right," O'Donnell said.

"You sweat in training so you don't bleed in war."

While civil disturbance is more integral to the unit's primary mission, the SRT practice in the CQB building adds another facet to the soldiers' capabilities and readiness. "There is always a chance that our guys will have to search and clear a building," Pringle said. ■

Blasting the big guns

Story by Sgt. J.R. Lewis

◆ ◆ ◆

HQ STARC (-)

There is a bonding force in the bel-
lowing blast that erupts from a
tank's main barrel.

It can be felt in the silence between
the initial jolt and recoil of the massive
steel beast, and the delayed explosion is
nearly biblical in its awesome power.

Whether the shell hits its target or not
doesn't take away from the power of the
vehicle or the sense of fraternity felt by
those who have launched fire from its
belly.

Of course, hitting the target is crucial,
and in the strikingly different, fast-paced
world of tankers, the best defense is a
good offense.

So when the tankers from the 1-147th
Armor Battalion traveled Aug. 16-30 to
Camp Ripley, Minn., the goal was to steer,
aim and shoot the weapon of choice, the
M-1 Abrams tank, with the kind of preci-
sion that has defined the tank forces of the
U.S. military since World War I.

One of the premier tank-training sites

in the National Guard, Camp Ripley is
located in Little Falls, Minn. Of the
53,000 acres of the camp, nearly 51,000
are available for maneuvers.

The four-man tank crews fired on a
progressive tank course split into "gun-
nery tables," with night- and day-firing
required on each table, according to
Maj. Mark R. Slavik, 1-147th Armor
Battalion commanding officer.

Tank Tables IV-VII (4-7) were pre-
liminary rounds, while Table VIII (8)
was the defining challenge for the armor
crews, Slavik said.

Each tank crew consists of four sol-
diers—a tank commander, gunner,
loader and driver. According to
Slavik, each crew member has to work
together with precision, correct phras-
ing of orders, skill and accuracy in or-
der to qualify on Table VIII.

Table VIII consists of 10 timed en-
gagements (six day and four night en-
gagements). Each crew starts with 1,000

points, with deductions assessed for
missed targets, time violations and
"crew cuts," or improper firing com-
mands.

Crew cuts were identified by evalua-
tors who listened in and communicated
with the crews via radios, Slavik said.

The M-1 Abrams is a virtual rolling
fortress equipped with a 105-millime-
ter cannon, a 7.62-mm secondary gun
and a .50-caliber machine gun
mounted atop the tank.

In order to qualify on Table VIII, each
crew needed to pass all seven prelimi-
nary tables and score at least 700 points
on Table VIII.

Of the 28 crews that fired on the Table
VIII qualification range at Camp Ripley,
17 were from the 1-147th and 11 from
the 2-107th Cavalry Squadron. Accord-
ing to Slavik, 16 of those crews quali-
fied on the first run, while 12 crews
needed a second pass to qualify.

Two crews fired "distinguished" on

Table VIII, an honor re-
served for crews scoring
more than 900 points.
One of the crews scored
913 points, while 935
points were tallied by
the Alpha Company
crew of Staff Sgt.
Michael Baxter, tank
commander; Spc. Casey
Fathbruckner, gunner;
Spc. Carl Pitney, loader;
and Pvt. 1st Class Jo-
seph Dailer, driver.

Baxter said the unit's
success at the range is
an indicator of the pro-
gression made in terms
of training, task-ori-
ented skills and dedica-
tion.

"When the new Table
VIII came out two years
ago, even active-duty
Army units were having
trouble qualifying. Our



PFC Ronald Hill / 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

To complete Table VIII, tank crews fired six timed daytime engagements and four at night.

“This is the Super Bowl of tanking. It’s what every tanker wants to do.” **sgt. Barry Graham / 1-147th Armor Battalion**

first time on Table VIII, we only qualified one crew in the whole battalion,” Baxter said. “This year, we went from one crew in the whole battalion to seven crews out of one company.

“I think that is an indicator of how far we’ve come in a short time—as a company and a battalion.”

Fathbruckner said the crew was extremely relaxed during the intense Table VIII qualification—another indication of how hard the crews trained before heading into the Minnesota wilderness to test their abilities.

“We weren’t plagued by the nervousness you feel when you’re not quite sure if you’re doing something right. We stayed on track, kept the loading running smoothly, and listened to the orders given by the tank commander,” Fathbruckner said. “As targets came up, they were called out and knocked down. I just shot well by putting the crosshairs on the target and squeezing the trigger.

“It’s just like taking a picture.”

Sgt. Rick Lee, the gunner on the crew that scored 913 points, said the amount of time spent by each crew training and preparing for the annual training built a kinship that resulted in triumph on the tank range.

“As a unit, we really benefit from crew integrity,” Lee said. “It means a lot of training, a lot of hard work, but we’re all dedicated to doing our best.”

Sgt. Barry Graham, an ammo loader whose crew qualified on Table VIII, said the bond between crewmembers extends beyond the time spent in the tanks.

“We work so well in our small groups because we spend a lot of time talking to each other, eating together and working toward a common goal,” Graham said. “This instills the esprit de corps that translates into success in the tank.”

But successfully steering and firing a tank alone aren’t enough for success on Table VIII, Graham said. “This is the Super Bowl of tanking. It’s what



PFC Ronald Hill / 196th MPAD

Battalion Commander MAJ Mark R. Slavik congratulates A Company tank gunner SGT Rick Lee, whose tank crew was the first in the battalion to qualify on Tank Table VIII, with a score 913.

every tanker wants to do.”

Col. Matthew L. Kambic, 37th Armor Brigade commander, echoed Graham’s Super Bowl comparison, but took the idea a step further while speak-

ing to the tank crews after a morning training exercise the day after qualifications were completed.

“Table VIII is like the Super Bowl, but how many teams have to go out and practice the day after playing in the big game?” Kambic asked the tankers. “You guys are out here maneuvering bright and early the next day.”

Down to the jumpsuits, side arms and helmets, the tankers looked every bit like the pilots to whom they are so often compared. Standing in the vast, rolling field that was surrounded by the dense pine and brush of the Minnesota forest, the tankers swatted away swarms of gnats while listening to Kambic praise their excellence in the Table VIII qualifications.

“For all of you who qualified on Table VIII, embrace the ‘doing’ of the experience. It’s the ‘doing’ that counts out here,” Kambic said. “You guys have set the standard for the brigade. You’re number one in the brigade in every measurable way.

“As a brigade commander, I’m pretty damned proud that I can go back home and brag about the 1-147th.” ■



PFC Ronald Hill / 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Hungarian soldiers observe a 1-147th tank crewmember check his tracks.

Missions of Mercy

Toledo's medical squadron provides medical care to Peruvian citizens

Story and photo by
Maj. Bill Antoszewski
180th Fighter Wing

It's not every day you ride a boat to work, but then it's not every day you provide world-class health care within a stone's throw of the Amazon River in a Peruvian jungle. For two weeks, this was all part of a typical day's work for members of the 180th Medical Squadron, Toledo.

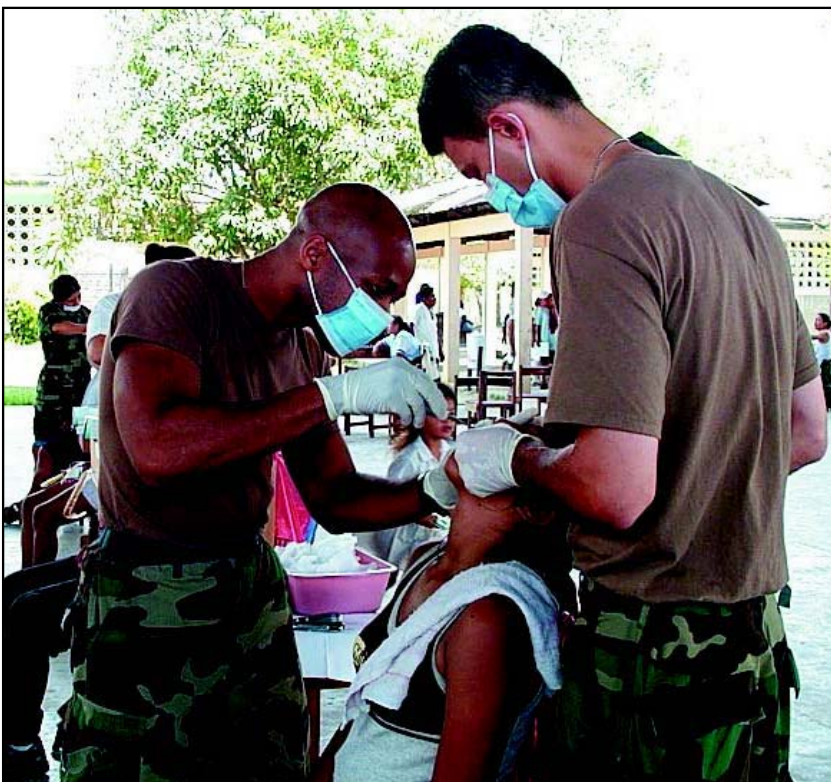
During the period of Aug. 4-18, 29 members of the 180th Medical Squadron (MDS) deployed on a humanitarian-civil action medical mission to the city of Iquitos, Peru.

Unit members worked out of school classrooms, lean-tos and tents at five different sites throughout the region. Thousands of Peruvian citizens who do not have access to or cannot afford quality medical care were provided free screenings, examinations, medications, dental care and eyeglasses. The care given was desperately needed and greatly appreciated. At many of the sites, locals camped overnight to wait for treatment.

The medical squadron was supported by interpreters and medics from several other units including the 180th Logistics Squadron; 180th Services Squadron; 200th RED HORSE Squadron, Port Clinton; 178th Medical Squadron, Springfield; 105th Medical Squadron, New York Air National Guard; 123rd Medical Squadron, Kentucky ANG; and Keesler Air Force Base (active duty).

The medical squadron was also assisted by numerous physicians, nurses, technicians, an optometrist, a pharmacist and several interpreters provided by the Peruvian military, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education.

According to Col. Will Richter, 180th MDS commander, the key to the success of this humanitarian mission was total integra-



SSgt Dave Thomas (left), a medical technician with the 180th Fighter Wing, works with Dr. (1st Lt) Simon Nguyen of the 178th Fighter Wing Medical Squadron to extract a patient's tooth at one of five medical clinic sites staffed by American servicemembers near Iquitos, Peru.

tion of ANG personnel and their Peruvian counterparts into one health care team.

"In every area, medical personnel worked side-by-side with host nation providers and technicians, with each benefiting from the cultural and professional exchange," he said.

While in Iquitos, the medical squadron saw more than 1,000 patients daily. The visits included general medicine, dentistry, optometry and minor surgery.

An active-duty plastic surgeon worked with 180th nurses and technicians to perform surgery on several complex cases at local hospitals.

For many of the technicians, this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to assist in the operating room.

One of the greatest needs for the Peruvian citizens was proper eye care. The optometry section provided eye exams for more than 1,500 patients and dispensed about 1,000 pairs of donated eyeglasses.

The eyeglasses were provided by the Lions Club International and the 128th Medical Squadron of the Wisconsin ANG.

The Lions Club and Wisconsin ANG run a large-scale volunteer effort to collect, repair and package eyeglasses to be distributed during humanitarian missions.

Undertaking this mission took months of advanced planning and coordination. It was a new and challenging experience for the medical squadron to work with the U.S. Embassy in Lima, Peru; U.S. Southern Command in Miami; and 12th Air Force at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.

There were dozens of requirements, large and small, that had to be addressed to ensure the safe and productive deployment of 40 ANG personnel, their equipment, and sufficient medical supplies to serve more than 10,000 patients.

All of this was accomplished while operating at a remote site, hundreds of miles from the nearest U.S. support facility. ■

PSB tracks military globe-trotters

By Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Jennings
237th Personnel Services Battalion

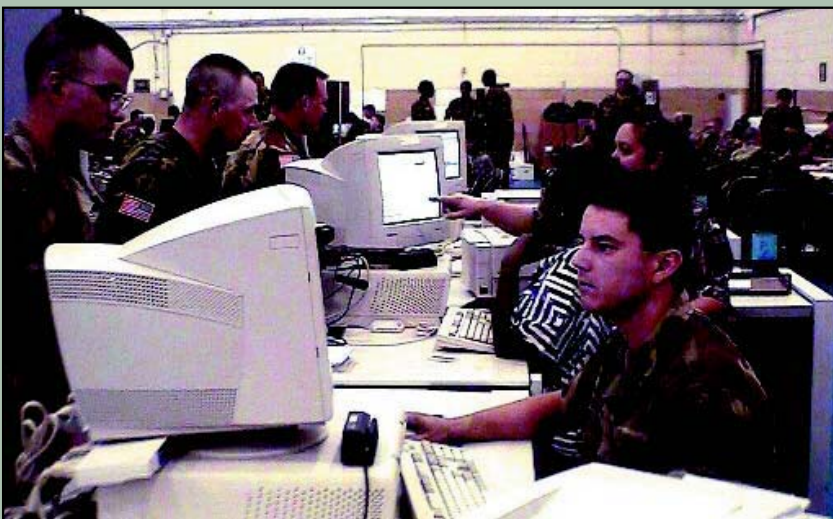
To anyone other than a military strategist, deploying U.S. soldiers around the world for peacekeeping, warfighting or other contingency operations must seem like a logistical nightmare. So in today's fast-paced, quick-strike Army, what does it take to track these globe-trotting troops?

Ohio Army National Guard soldiers recently experienced first-hand the ins-and-outs of processing and deploying soldiers in the 21st century. During their two-week annual training at Fort Dix, N.J., members of the 237th Personnel Services Battalion (PSB), headquartered in Columbus, helped mobilize troops for Task Force Eagle, which is led by the 29th Infantry Division.

The Virginia-based National Guard division is in command of multinational forces in the Balkans for one year. As part of the deployment process, 77 soldiers from the Buckeye State worked with the Fort Dix Military Personnel Directorate's (MPD) mobilization personnel and honed their skills in soldier processing tasks, which included reviewing and updating individual personnel and medical records.

A peek into the future also awaited the Ohio Guard personnel specialists as they were given the opportunity to input soldier readiness data into the Army's new Common Access Card—commonly referred to as the "Smart" or "Warrior" Card.

These high-tech cards are embedded with a computer chip that stores individual training, medical, dental, equipment qualification and other personal identification information. "The card's microchip holds valuable soldier identification information



Courtesy photo

SGT Juan Andrade III enters a soldier's personal data into the Army's new MOBILAS (Mobilization Level Application Software) at the Fort Dix Soldier Readiness Processing Site. Soldiers of the 237th Personnel Services Battalion helped prepare Virginia's 29th Infantry Division for deployment to Bosnia.

and allows security access to such things as buildings and computers," said Geneva Sturdivant, Fort Dix soldier readiness processing security manager.

"American-based camps in the Balkans are patrolled by security 24-7," Sturdivant said. "Soldiers going into areas considered hazardous will use these cards in those regions."

To add to the realism and importance of their mission, deploying soldiers were greeted by rows of concertina wire as they entered the Soldier Readiness Processing (SRP) building. The wire simulated the increased security levels soldiers will experience once they reach foreign soil.

In order to familiarize themselves with the latest soldier processing software, members of the 237th PSB first trained using mock records. "We want our support soldiers in a walk-run stage by the time we begin processing the nearly 300 soldiers from the 29th Infantry Division who are mobilizing

to Bosnia," said Warrant Officer Rick Cosgray, a long-time personnel expert with the 237th PSB. "We're trying to get familiar with the computer program so our soldiers can maneuver through the software to get these deploying troops through the process more quickly."

Added Sturdivant: "The benefit to the 237th learning this software is they can just come here and jump in and lend a hand and be supportive," she said. "My hope is that these soldiers leave here with a sense of gratification because of the things they have learned from the MPD family."

"This is the 237th's first AT as a unit. The training at the SRP sight is an opportunity for us to perform a real-world mission," said 2nd Lt. Tiffany Boyd, the battalion's training officer. "Our expectations are that the personnel soldiers will be trained or re-trained on the new system that will help future soldiers deploy and will also get us ready for wartime or peace-keeping situations." ■

EDITOR'S NOTE: The 237th performed its annual training from July 28 to Aug. 11 at Fort Dix. The training proved fortuitous as personnel teams from the unit were used in the presidential call-up of Ohio National Guard units in support of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom.



Courtesy photo

SGT Brian Taylor instructs PFC Rachel Curry on processing the Army's new Common Access "Smart" Card program.

Battle in the Desert



Soldiers from the 1-148th Infantry Battalion acted as opposing forces (OPFOR) at NTC during annual training in August.

Story and photos by Sgt. J.R. Lewis
HQ STARC (-)

Just a couple months before members of the Ohio National Guard were activated to support the battle against terrorists from the Middle East, some ONG soldiers played the part of the enemy to prepare active-duty soldiers for the eventuality of desert combat that since has become reality.

Soldiers from the Ohio Army National Guard's 1-148th Infantry Battalion journeyed to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., from Aug. 12-31 to act as opposing forces (OPFOR) in a large-scale, brigade-level training operation against the 1st Armored Cavalry Division out of Fort Hood, Texas.

The soldiers were broken down into three teams of an integrated motor-rifle regiment to supplement the 11th Armored Combat Regiment (Blackhorse), which is stationed at Fort Irwin.

Participating in the 25th year of OPFOR exercises at the NTC, the soldiers from the 1-148th went into the exercise intent on giving the 11th ACR ready and reliable support, said Maj. Rick Curry, 1-148th executive officer and commander of the task force that traveled to NTC.

"We're not a training aid. We're providing the 1st Cav. with the ability to exercise their units in a simulated combat system and simulated battle," Curry said. "The leadership of the 11th ACR has said they have never seen a unit come as well-prepared as we are."

"Any time we can impress our active-duty counterparts, the better off we are."

The 1-148th soldiers were broken down into three task forces—Angel, Rampage and Destroyer—with elements of each team taking part in three defensive and three offensive operations based on scenarios created by different mission matrixes.

Each team specialized in different aspects of combat. Task Force Angel specialized in air assault, Rampage in mechanized assault and Destroyer in truck-mounted infantry operations.

Operations orders for the various missions weren't given to the individual team commanders until the morning of the missions, which forced the command elements to use a great deal of fragmentary orders to get the word out.

This challenge, coupled with the heat of the NTC—located in the Mojave Desert with temperatures that sometimes exceed 120 degrees—and the "fog of war," provided a taste of the complexities soldiers face on the battlefield.

"Our success in the NTC is a testimony not only to the physical toughness of our soldiers, but the great leadership in the battalion at all levels," said Capt. Roderick Frederick, Task Force Rampage's commander.

The most important element in keeping the



Infantrymen from the 1-148th were able to train on the Dragon anti-tank weapon during simulated battlefield operations.

operations running smoothly was the permanent OPFOR, Frederick said.

"You can't find anything like this anywhere else," Frederick said. "They make sure that you're ready to step in and run with the game plan right off the bat."

Unit leadership also played a crucial role in the OPFOR game plan. Company commanders, first sergeants and NCOs were forced to take an active, assertive role in providing safety and coordination in the operations, said Rampage 1st Sgt. David Adams.

"This is a very harsh environment out here. You have to throw away the FM (Army Field Manual) on how to fight. Unorthodox methods, set into motion by creative and skilled leaders, are what it takes to win in the NTC," Adams said. "There are no limitations in the desert."

The attitude of "anything goes" in the desert was in stark contrast to the fighting the 1-148th soldiers were accustomed to in the wooded hills of Camp Grayling. Being able to see and be seen from great distances across the seemingly endless expanse of desert forced a switch in the game plan of the soldiers engaged in simulated combat.

"In a wooded environment you might not be able to see 20 or 30 feet. Out here, you can see 20 to 30 miles," said Sgt. 1st Class Dominic Fredo, Angel's first sergeant. "But with the right leadership and adapting skills this is just business as usual for us, only in a different environment."

Adapting to the rigors of combat meant some hands-on leadership roles for younger NCOs. When squad leaders were "killed" in exercises, these future first sergeants and sergeants major were forced to pick up the ball and run.

"Our leadership style constantly emphasizes what we call 'training down,' which means soldiers are always ready to move up and take over if a leader is lost," Fredo said. "Today I saw a platoon sergeant go down and a young squad leader step in and lead the platoon successfully."

The realism of the mock battle was made more acute by the use of MILES (Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System) gear. The soldiers were outfitted with laser-reacting MILES gear that allowed the OPFOR and BLUEFOR (friendly forces) to simulate the effect of combat casualties on the platoons.

Hits on the MILES gear was tracked, along with all battlefield operations, by Fort Irwin cadre, who were then able to compute various aspects of mission success.

Despite the fact that a "dead" soldier could be revived to participate in the next mission, the 1-148th soldiers used the MILES gear for a very serious lesson in the rigors and hazards of combat.

"I worked myself into the mindset where I wasn't even thinking about the MILES gear," said Spc. Jeff DaCosta, a

Rampage infantryman who was able to cross-train on the Dragon anti-tank weapon before and during the exercise.

"This is my job. I'm supposed to survive to keep fighting," he said. "Why would I not want to make it to the objective?"

DaCosta added that while the MILES gear provided a touch of realism, the system is still flawed. While searching on a tank with his Dragon, he noticed that the vehicle didn't emit a flash when the cannon fired. Soldiers in the 1-148th were "killed" by what seemed like a phantom tank.

"It was in a hidden position and we couldn't fire on it," DaCosta said. "These were the few drawbacks that we had to make do with, but we still performed well."

While the Guard is used to working at a lower level, usually platoon and sometimes company, the grand scope of this operation seemed to have a resounding effect on the soldiers in terms of retention, according to Curry. "I've heard guys saying that if this is what we're going to do, then they're going to stay in (the Guard)," he said.

Such high-speed training has led to retention levels that place the 1-148th at the heralded position of number one infantry battalion in the National Guard by readiness standards, Curry said.

And having a successful mission in a new and exciting environment can only improve matters.

"If I was to give the task force a report card grade on this mission, it would absolutely be an 'A,'" Curry said. "We accomplished the missions set up for us by the command and saw a great bunch of leaders doing a great job." ■



Task Force Rampage conducted mechanized assault against friendly forces.

Engineers test their
versatility to aid
U.S. Border Patrol
in San Diego County

Closing the

Story by Sgt. J.R. Lewis / HQ STARC (-)

Photos by Spc. Shawn Bender / HQ, 512th Engineer Battalion



Soldiers from the 512th Engineer Battalion brought together panel bridge expertise and dirt-hauling experience to aid the U.S. Border Patrol during an annual training this summer in southern California.

Performing rotations from June through August out of a home base at Camp Morena in eastern San Diego County, the soldiers from the 191st Engineer Company (Dump Truck), Columbus, and 1193rd Engineer Company (Panel Bridge), Cincinnati, battled the heat and hostile environment to repair a fence line along the U.S.-Mexico border and fill in an old, unused road in support of the Border Patrol's drug interdiction program.

Both missions were a complete success, according to Capt. Douglas Brunot, commander of the 191st, which closed out the

operations in mid-August.

"Our goals were mission-oriented, but we were able to accomplish quite a bit and still give the soldiers a wide variety of experience," Brunot said.

For the dump truck soldiers, the mission—in theory—was simple: haul 700 cubic yards of select fill dirt (and 150,000 gallons of water for compacting) from a pick-up site known as B&B Ranch to a slope reclamation site 10 miles away known as the "Campo Site."

The haul from B&B Ranch to the Campo Site was a test to the heavy truck drivers from the 191st, said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Kevin Stewart, maintenance officer.

"They're facing large mountains, steep roads that cut sharply, large boulders in the road and the heat is always a factor," Stewart said.

Concentrating on safety while accom-



ABOVE, LEFT: SPC Christian Holden uses a cutting torch on a steel panel. **THIS PHOTO:** The 191st Engineer Company hauled 700 cubic yards of fill dirt to repair a road used by the Border Patrol.

GAP

plishing the mission, the drivers were able to haul the required amount of road filling material, despite the lack of air-conditioning in the oven-like truck cabs and the treacherous road conditions.

While the drivers concentrated on safe driving, the 12 soldiers responsible for maintenance made sure the drivers had equipment to drive safely.

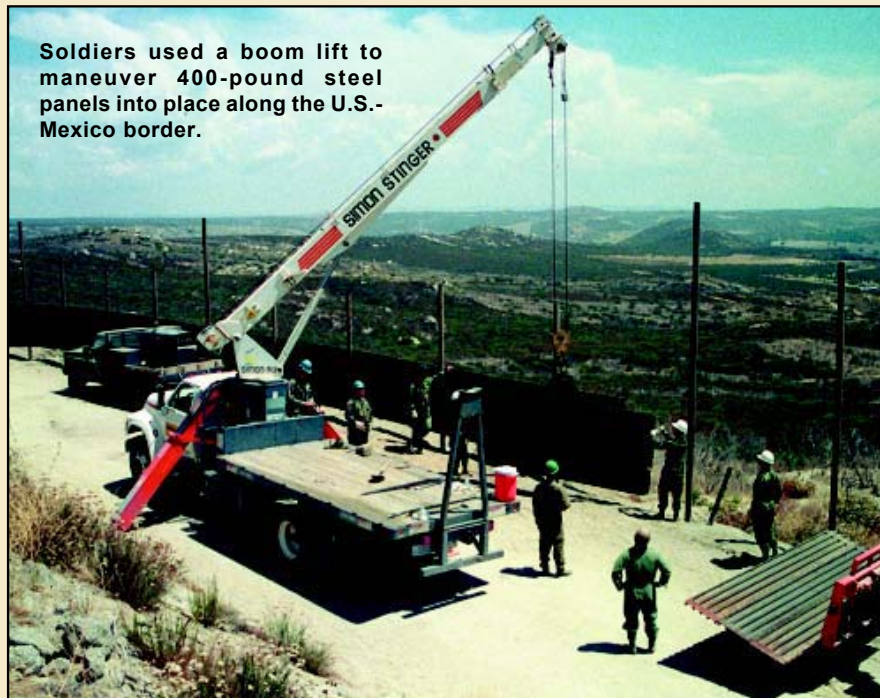
But coming into the mission, the role of the maintenance section was in question, Brunot said.

"Before we came down here, the maintenance soldiers asked me what they would have to do. The perception was that the permanent staff from Camp Morena would be taking care of the maintenance aspect," Brunot said.

This notion was quickly dispelled as the soldiers were immediately faced with the challenge of keeping the 5-ton dump trucks, D-7 dozers, graders and other mission-essential equipment on the road and in the field.

The challenge was made more difficult by the fact that the mission required the use of 5-ton dump trucks despite the fact that the soldiers were used to working with the 20-ton variety.

Sgt. 1st Class Roger McDonald of the maintenance section said his soldiers' atti-



Soldiers used a boom lift to maneuver 400-pound steel panels into place along the U.S.-Mexico border.

tudes were as important as their mechanic skills in working under the uncomfortable conditions.

"We drew about 13 trucks and managed to keep 10 or 11 up every day," McDonald said. "These guys were really gung-ho about that."

"We took care of minor problems in the field and put a Band-Aid on the major problems to get the equipment back to the motor pool at Camp Morena for repairs."

Brunot said the efforts of the maintenance section were the difference between mission accomplishment and a stalled game plan.

"The maintenance folks really pulled together and kept the trucks running for us down here," Brunot said. "They made it a lot easier for the rest of the soldiers to do their jobs."

Going above-and-beyond was a theme present among not only the drivers and maintenance soldiers, but also among the 512th soldiers (and supplemental soldiers from the 191st) who were assigned the difficult challenge of repairing the fence line along the border.

Utilizing a boom lift, fork lift, welding units and cutting torches, the fence line soldiers filled in about 216 feet of uncompleted fence with 400-pound steel panels.

Led by construction supervisor Sgt. 1st Class Renee Strahm, the soldiers, many of whom normally perform administrative, communication and supply tasks, were hastily cross-trained to be welders and con-

struction engineers.

"For these soldiers who don't have a construction MOS (military occupational specialty), the work was challenging, but the mission was given and they stepped up to the plate," Strahm said.

The difficulties faced by the makeshift fence construction crew were sufficient enough to challenge even construction experts.

The gap in the fence line was at the crest of a steep hill, and the heavy steel panels had to be cut precisely and custom-fit using cutting torches.

Safety was another crucial factor. Not only were the soldiers forced to work in the two-foot buffer known as the "no-man's land" on the Mexican side of the border, but the arid climate made brush fires an imminent threat at all times.

To extinguish the threat of a brush fire, the soldiers were provided with a dedicated on-site water truck, and a medic was always on-hand in case of a construction-related accident or heat casualty.

"Everything was done safely, and we were able to weld in 40 panels," Strahm said. "We all watched each other's backs...not only backs, but fingers, heads and toes also."

Brunot said that while the road to completing the mission was long and difficult, the experience for the soldiers was a benefit that made the journey worthwhile.

"In Ohio, getting a mission like this would be virtually impossible," Brunot said. "It's unusual for engineers to be able to participate in a project of this size and scope." ■



Soldiers from the 512th Engineer Battalion completed 216 feet of fence-line with 400-pound steel panels.

Helping thy NEIGHBOR

Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Todd Cramer
179th Airlift Wing

A few hands went up reluctantly when the loadmaster asked if this C-130 Hercules flight would be the first of a kind for anyone on board. The C-130 happens to be the four-engine, turbo-prop transport that has been operated by the 179th Airlift Wing since 1976. Senior Airman Daniel Karbula was among those to take their first flight on the big 'Herc.'

This was all part of the excitement as the 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield, deployed 38 of its members Aug. 11-25 to Cold Lake Air Base, Canada, in support of 4 Wing, Royal Canadian Air Force.

The primary task for the 179th contingent—comprised mostly of civil engineering troops—was to assist in a major renovation of the Sergeants and Warrants Dining Facility, one of the original buildings on base. The wing also sent six food services personnel and six firefighters to augment the base full-time staff for the two-week trip.

Cold Lake, located approximately 400 miles east of the Rocky Mountains and halfway up the province of Alberta, is the largest and most active base in the Canadian Forces. Built in the early 1950s, the base is the home of 4 Wing, which is comprised of three flying squadrons, all operating the McDonnell Douglas CF-18 Hornet (24 Canadian CF-18s took part in Desert Shield/Desert Storm operations and logged approximately 5,700 hours in theater).

While weather prevented completion of the siding installation, the 179th engineers were able to install 100 new windows and added a veneer of

four-inch Styrofoam insulation to the exterior walls of the 5,400-square-foot facility.

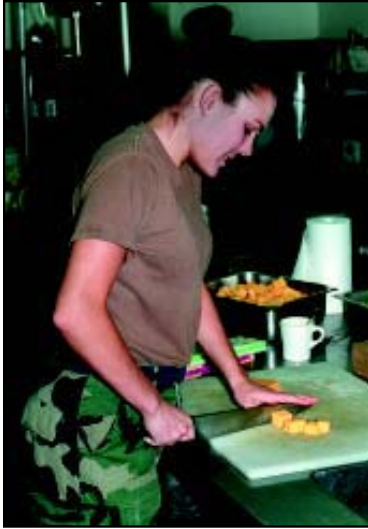
Second Lt. Craig Devore, deployment officer-in-charge, said he would be thrilled to come back to Cold Lake with another crew to do more work for 4 Wing, if asked.

"The folks here have been wonderful hosts and have done a great job keeping us moving," Devore said. "Anything we needed was provided in a timely fashion, and the Canadians we have met here have been very friendly. They have been great people to work for." ■



ABOVE: TSgt Eric Hutcherson takes measurements before he installs siding. RIGHT: SrA Kenton Lee assists in constructing the Cold Lake dining facility.

Civil Engineers



Food Service

SrA Danielle Karbula prepares a meal at the Officer's Club.

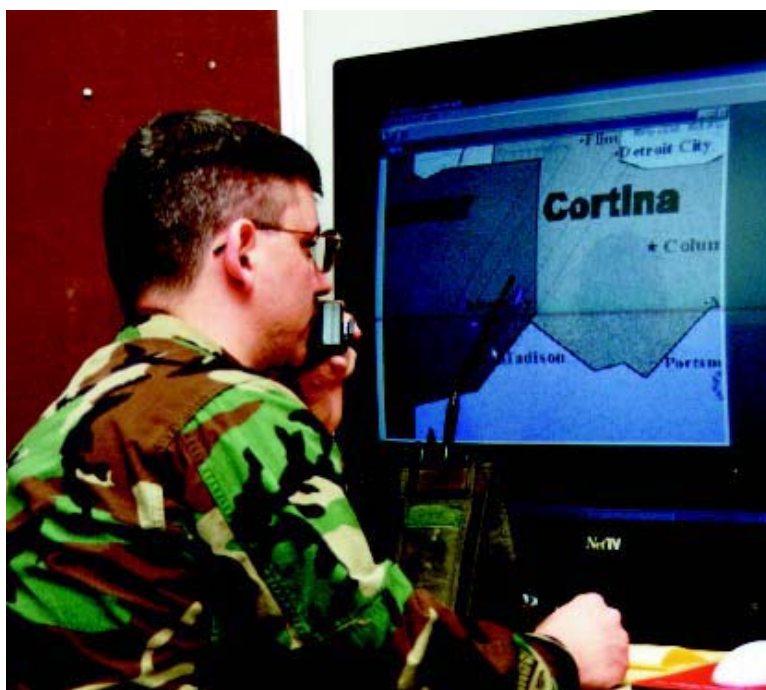


Fire Fighters

SSgt Chad Lifer performs a timed portion of a Canadian abilities test in full gear.



EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES



Steve Toth / AGOH-Public Affairs

SGT Troy Coen of HHB, 2-174th ADA, communicates early warning data to headquarters during an Extended Air Defense Simulation (EADSIM) battle scenario.

RTI offers cost-effective training alternatives

Story by Steve Toth

Adj. Gen. Dept. Public Affairs

It has been a common predicament, even prior to the most recent wave of budget belt-tightening: There never seem to be enough resources to train troops to the fullest and on a large enough scale.

But challenges breed creative and cost-effective alternatives. Such was the case when the Army and its reserve components began using computer-based simulators to provide units with realistic training scenarios instead of physically sending soldiers to a training site, accompanied by the myriad of logistical issues that go with such an endeavor.

Today simulators are becoming more viable and widely used throughout the National Guard. While they're not a replacement for the real thing, simulators—like the Janus system employed at the Ohio Army Guard's 145th Regiment, Regional Training Institute at Rickenbacker Army Enclave, Columbus—have proven to be effective training devices for units limited by time and money in preparation for do-

ing the real thing.

But while Janus has been a valuable tactical trainer for several types of combat and combat support units, it is not entirely capable of providing large-scale, airborne battle scenarios that some units require.

During Operation Desert Storm, military commanders were able to conduct corps-level simulations using computer software. With the goal of minimizing the loss of U.S. servicemembers' lives, strategic decisions were made based on the various courses of action that were played out during simulated battles.

Extended Air Defense Simulation (EADSIM), one of the technologies used during Desert Storm, provides units with an enhanced capability that can improve existing simulators, like Janus, affording commanders an improved situational awareness, according to Robert L. Keller of Teledyne Brown Engineering, Inc., developers of EADSIM.

The EADSIM is a simulation of air, missile and space warfare. It extends the battle area because of the larger amount of square geographic territory that it covers, there-

fore allowing battalions to train on early warning capabilities.

The Ohio Army Guard made history when it was the first National Guard unit to use the EADSIM system, as soldiers from the 2-174th Air Defense Artillery Battalion (AVENGER), McConnellsville, participated in a unique exercise run by RTI staff, and contractors from Teledyne Brown and Cubic Applications, Inc., maintainers of the Janus simulator.

"One of the things that has put a limitation on us (with Janus) is that batteries can fight the near-term battle, but the battalions haven't been able to fight the future battle, until now," said Lt. Col. Mike Bish, 2-174th commander.

EADSIM models fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft, tactical ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, infrared and radar sensors, communications devices and fire support in a dynamic environment that includes the effects of terrain and attrition on the outcome of the battle, Keller said.

While the computer simulation is run inside the confines of the RTI basement, outside, battalion staff members in tactical trailers map movements and record data from the subordinate batteries via various modes of communication.

The end result of all computer simulations is that a commander will have a much better feel for how effectively his staff is communicating, what it is doing well and areas that need improvement.

"Janus and EADSIM simulators are merely the stimulus for communication among the battle staff," said Master Sgt. Bob Marsh, systems NCO for the RTI's simulation team. "How the staff communicates is the important part."

While the Janus and EADSIM simulations ran simultaneously during the exercise, they were not actually working together. The simulations currently use different operating systems and cannot actually communicate and work in concert during a simulation, contractors said.

"What we're trying to do is get to the steps where the systems work together. We're not there yet," Keller said. "This exercise was the first step in getting those systems to merge."

However, as future technologies are developed, the two systems—or some of the many others on the market—may become compatible with one another as contractors work more closely together in order to meet the ever diversifying training needs and requirements of the National Guard Bureau and the Army Simulation, Training and Instrumentation Command (STRICOM).

Whatever the technology, the bottom line for the RTI staff is results, according to Col. James Dapore, the RTI's simulation team director.

"We can ensure that, through the technology of these types of systems, we accomplish our

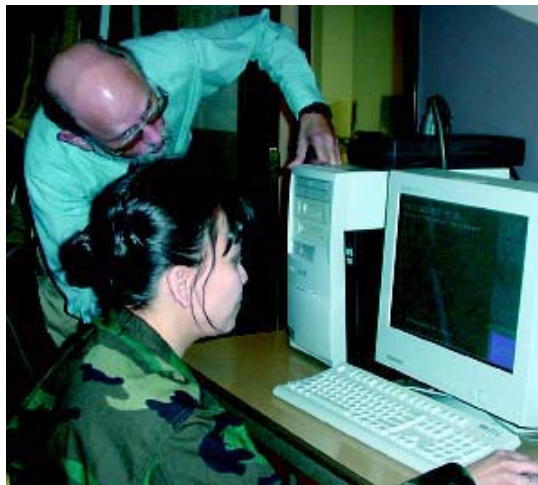
mission—to train (Army Guard) battle staffs for the state,” he said.

For more information on Janus and EADSIM, or how to utilize computer simulations to augment unit training, call the RTI at (614) 336-6446, or e-mail 145rti@oh.ngb.army.mil. ■

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: (1) MAJ Larry Heisler of the Ohio Guard's simulation team guides SPC Marty Erne through an exercise using the Janus system; (2) Teledyne Brown's Sam Hawkins inputs air defense battle scenarios over the midwestern United States using EADSIM software; (3) Receiving battery status reports, PFC Christina Cich consolidates data on a dry-erase board inside a battalion tactical vehicle; (4) Robert Christoph of Cubic Applications assists SGT Kat Miller during a maintenance recovery exercise on Janus.



SGT Angela Beltz / 145th Regiment, RTI



SGT Angela Beltz / 145th Regiment, RTI



Steve Toth / AGOH-Public Affairs



Steve Toth / AGOH-Public Affairs

Reaching for the ‘STARS’

Seniors Teaching And Reaching Students program empowers older adults to be tutors, mentors in local elementary schools

Story by Jim Vilella
Ohio Department of Aging

What are three happily retired U.S. Armed Forces veterans doing inside Mansfield's Ranchwood Elementary School on a day picture-perfect for golf or fishing?

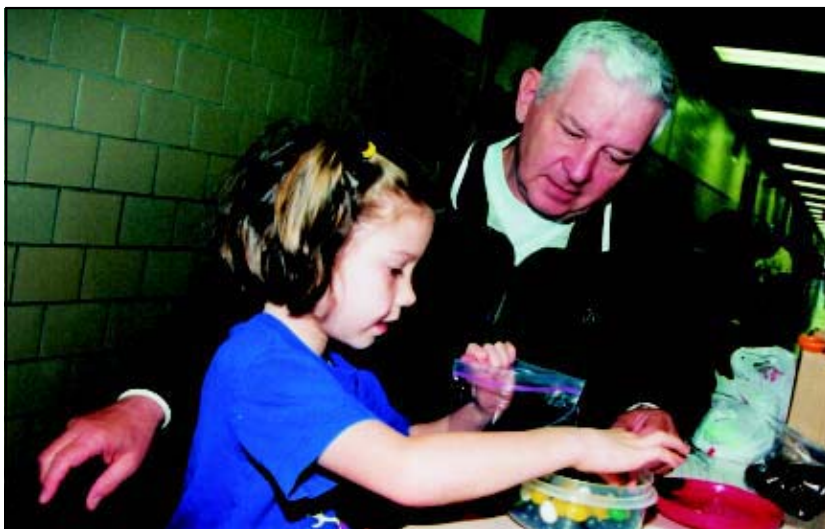
Making a difference, that's what.

A sonic and visual kaleidoscope of young children with laughing voices and boundless energy dominates the school building as the students move to their classes. Once inside, classes under way, the halls fall silent except for the muted voices of STARS volunteers. At desks at opposite ends of a long hall, Gary G. Bond and Joseph Schivinski each guide an attentive student in reading or math exercises. In the empty lunch room George Hauer does the same. They correct, encourage, prompt and tease a parade of youngsters through their lessons, repeating the process throughout the morning.

These Mansfield residents are members of an elite group of older Ohioans who get up close and personal with students to help them succeed in school and in life. Along with 22 other local residents, they are volunteers on the Ohio Department of Aging's OhioReads/STARS team. STARS—Seniors Teaching And Reaching Students—is a unique intergenerational initiative, empowering older adults (age 55 and older) to be tutors and mentors in elementary schools in their communities.

The three are also U.S. military veterans. Bond served on an aircraft carrier with the Navy on active duty during the latter part of the Korean War; Hauer spent nine years during two tours of duty in the Navy as well; and Schivinski spent two years in the active Army as a combat infantryman, rounding out his military service with four years in the Ohio National Guard.

A poster at a library in the town of Lex-



Courtesy photo

ABOVE: Joe Schivinski uses a container of colored jelly beans as a counting device for a Kindergarten student. RIGHT: Gary Bond and his pupil take a break from their reading assignment to pose for a quick photo.

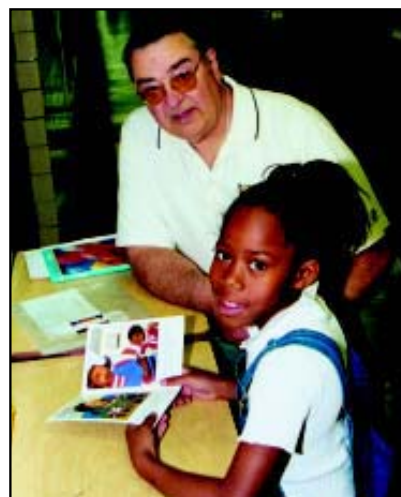
ington drew Hauer's attention to STARS, and a meeting with Ranchwood Elementary's STARS Coordinator closed the deal. "STARS sounded good. It's well-organized and Julie Robinson is a very positive and persuasive person, so I signed on," he said.

Robinson personally asked Schivinski to be a STARS volunteer at Ranchwood. A retired police officer, Schivinski was already active in the Mansfield schools with the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program. The former guardmember agreed and has been with the mentoring program since its inception.

All three veterans and their fellow volunteers spend about 20 hours a week at Ranchwood. STARS is targeted to a specific school's needs. Volunteers spend time with individual children as needed and directed by the school's full-time teachers. They act as substitute classroom monitors, help children with learning difficulties and tutor reading, math or computer skills.

"At Ranchwood, we are wherever we're needed, to do whatever needs to be done to help the kids," Bond said.

Ranchwood principal Bob Gibson declared the STARS program at Ranchwood an unqualified success not only for its students and the STARS team volunteers, but



Courtesy photo

also for its positive impact on Ranchwood's full-time teachers' workloads. "It is gratifying to see STARS volunteers dealing one-on-one with pupils who need a little help. The volunteers here really care and you can see it in their eyes and in those of the students."

Each of Ohio's 550 STARS volunteers gives time to programs tailored to meet the needs of the more than 47 elementary schools involved. STARS operates in conjunction with Gov. Bob Taft's OhioReads program.

Veterans and other retired persons interested in participating in an Ohio STARS program in their area should call toll free (877) 632-7827 or send an e-mail to kthompson@age.state.oh.us. ■

GuardCare services Perry County residents

Story and photos by
Spc. Haraz N. Ghanbari
HQ STARC (-)

Seventy-year-old Forrest Inboden of Corning cuts 10 yards a week with a self-propelled, walk-behind lawn mower, but still thought it would be a good idea to get a health check-up.

Since the Ohio Army National Guard offered free medical screenings to the residents of Perry County last August, Inboden thought the time was right to get that annual physical.

"This is the first time I have done this, and it suited me very well," he said.

In its eighth year, GuardCare is nothing new to the trained medics of Detachment 6, HQ STARC (Medical). The event is designed to provide free health services to medically underserved communities in Ohio.

The Ohio Department of Health and the local county health department help coordinate the event which is staffed by Guard soldiers. During the last few years, GuardCare services have been offered to an identified county on two separate weekends, so the largest number of people can take advantage of the health care available.

Some of the services available included free immunizations, physicals, heart function screenings (EKGs), complete blood counts (CBCs), PAP smears, cervical examinations, hearing examinations, prostate specific antigen tests, blood sugar and cholesterol screenings, dental examinations, vision testing and glaucoma testing.

After months of planning, Det. 6 soldiers deployed to the Corning Civic Center to set up the first GuardCare event Aug. 11-12. According to Corning Mayor Jo



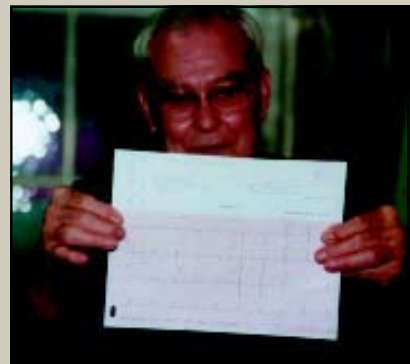
ABOVE: Medic SGT Shelley McCaleb (standing) takes the blood pressure of a Perry County girl. RIGHT: A GuardCare patient displays results of his heart function screening.

Frasure, the 2000 Census reported 593 people resided in Corning, most of whom are retired.

Reaching the older population that lives on a fixed income is one of the main objectives of GuardCare. "Some people my age might be scared to do something like this because they might find something wrong with themselves," Inboden said. "I had no complaints about what they (OHARNG medics) did."

A community may be considered "underserved" if residents have far to travel for routine medical services. In Corning, the nearest doctor's office is about 15 miles away, and the closest hospital is more than 30. Other criteria includes local residents with little or no health insurance, or those who simply don't make enough money to pay for a visit to the doctor.

Tracy Headley of Junction City brought three of her six children to Corning and the other three to the second GuardCare site, conducted Aug. 25-26 at the Perry County Fairgrounds in New Lexington. Headley has no health insurance and received free



physicals for all six of her kids.

"This is a thorough program with easy access where I can have anything I need done for my kids," said Headley, whose children were impressed by the military uniforms worn by the medical personnel. "My seven-year-old thinks this is the best thing he has ever seen."

According to Capt. William Coleman, officer-in-charge of GuardCare 2001, Perry County residents were able to pick and choose from the health care services available. "If someone just wants an immunization, they can just get that," Coleman said. "If someone wants a full gamut (all the medical stations), they can get that too."

Each medical station took about an hour to get through, and each were staffed by a full range of military rank—from private to colonel. Since its inception, GuardCare has continued to serve communities in need, increasing from 440 patients in 1994 to 737 in 2001. ■



Nurse 2LT Kristine Varga takes a blood sample from 70-year-old Corning resident Forrest Inboden.



SPC Matthew Toomey / ONG Counterdrug Operations

During the annual Red Ribbon celebration in October, U.S. Rep. Rob Portman (left) receives the one-millionth ribbon distributed by the Ohio National Guard from Maj. Gen. John H. Smith, state adjutant general.

Smith, ONG distribute one-millionth Red Ribbon

The Ohio National Guard's leadership understands the importance of making smart choices, including the choice not to use illegal drugs.

For this reason, the Ohio National Guard and the Ohio National Guard Counterdrug Task Force have been coordinating Red Ribbon efforts throughout the state for more than 10 years.

Ohio National Guardmembers have dedicated much time and effort to many communities throughout the state of Ohio. All that time and hard work has culminated through the years to become an outstanding statewide Red Ribbon Kick-off and Celebration.

Last Oct. 22 marked the start of Red Ribbon Week in Ohio and across the nation as well. As part of the kickoff celebration in Ohio, Ohio Parents for a Drug Free Youth, Citizens Against Substance Abuse in Cincinnati and the Ohio Alcohol and Drug Policy Alliance, teamed up to organize celebrations at several different locations throughout the state.

The three locations chosen for this year's kickoff were Hilliard Heritage Middle School in Columbus, Lunken Airport in Cincinnati and the University of Rio Grande in Southeast Ohio.

More than 2,000 students were at the three locations as well as some special guests, including First Lady of Ohio Hope Taft, Ohio Parents for a Drug Free Youth Director Patricia Harmon, Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent Rich Issacson and Luceille

Fleming, director of the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services.

The guests were flown to each of the three locations in a UH-60 "Blackhawk" helicopter. At Lunken Airport, U.S. Rep. Rob Portman joined the others to share his anti-drug message.

Maj. Gen. John H. Smith, state adjutant general, presented a plaque containing the one-millionth Red Ribbon in the history of the program to Portman, a strong advocate of ONG efforts to educate the youth of Ohio regarding the issues of illegal drug usage. He also is chairman of the House

Anti-drug/Anti-terrorism Committee.

The Counterdrug Task Force's goal for 2002 is to double the number of ribbons distributed throughout the state, as well as the number of schools they visit. Anyone interested in helping with the 2002 Red Ribbon Kickoff and Celebration should contact Spc. Matthew Toomey at (614) 336-6432 or matthew.toomey@oh.ngb.army.mil. **SPC MATTHEW TOOMEY / ONG COUNTERDRUG TASK FORCE**

National Guard Bowling Tournament set for April

All members of the Ohio Army and Air National Guard are invited to participate in the annual National Guard Bowling Tournament, set for April 20-21 in Cincinnati.

The tournament's host this year is Detachment 1, Headquarters Company, 216th Engineer Battalion, Felicity.

For more information, contact Staff Sgt. Frank Burns at (513) 553-2226 or walter.whited@oh.ngb.army.mil; Staff Sgt. Terry Gettys at (513) 753-5542 or mrjnt@aol.com; or Pam Hayslip at pamhayslip@fuse.net. **DET. 1, HSC 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Spring 'March' needs foot soldiers

The "Just Say No March and Rally" is a community drug-free celebration that has occurred in Columbus every year since 1986. The march

and rally is a visible sign to the more than 4,000 Ohio students who attend every year that making healthy drug-free choices are important.

The Ohio National Guard has supported this event for the past five years. Volunteer guardmembers are needed at the event to help show support to the future leaders of Ohio.

This year, the event will take place May 10, beginning at the Columbus Convention Center's Battelle Auditorium, 400 N. High St., Columbus. The march will take place following the program events.

People interested in supporting the event should contact 1st Lt. Phil McGonagill, Drug Demand Reduction Administrator, at (614) 336-6590 or phil.mcgonagill@oh.ngb.army.mil. **ONG COUNTERDRUG TASK FORCE**

Retirees hold monthly luncheon in Columbus area

All retired Ohio National Guardmembers are encouraged to attend a monthly luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on the first Monday of each month, at the Bogey Inn, 6013 Glick Road, Dublin, Ohio.

Attendees may order from the menu. Meetings are casual gatherings, without agendas, guest speakers or rank formalities. All retirees are welcome to attend and share general camaraderie. **WARREN MYERS / ONGEA RETIREE AFFAIRS**

237th FSB boasts graduate from Air Assault School

A mobile training team from Fort Polk, La., traveled last July to Camp Atterbury, Ind., to conduct an Air Assault School, and the Ohio Army National Guard was represented as Staff Sgt. Tricia Zelenak, of Alpha Company, 237th Forward Support Battalion, Springfield, successfully completed the course.



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Buckeye Army Center

For more information contact your First Line Leader
or SFC Michael Bond at (614) 336-6432

Providing roadside assistance



Courtesy photo

Members of Bravo Troop, 2-107th Cavalry Squadron, Lebanon, provided a color guard and firing detail during dedication of the "Sergeant Danny C. Hayes Memorial Highway" Nov. 3 on state Route 217 in Lawrence County. Hayes was killed in 1968 while serving in Vietnam. Pictured are Bravo Troopers SFC Michael Lewandowski (from left), SSG Michael Wright, SFC Steven Shepherd, PFC Adam Billet, PFC Jeremy Vannorsdall and SPC Gordon Cairns.

According to Maj. Mitch Abel, assistant state training officer for the Indiana Army National Guard and officer-in-charge of the Air Assault School, Camp Atterbury will host another Air Assault School in July 2003, providing an opportunity for more soldiers of the 37th Armor Brigade to become Air Assault-qualified in the future. **1LT JODIE MCFEE / 237TH FORWARD SUPPORT BATTALION**

Guardmembers excel during annual state Combat Match

The 2001 Ohio National Guard Combat Match was held last summer at Camp Perry by the Ohio Army Guard's Small Arms Readiness Training Team.

It is a battle-focused competition that measures guardmembers' skills and provides training in advanced marksmanship. Several infantry soldiers led the way in the various events.

◆ **Rifle Individual Match:** Spc. Will Stasiak, Company B, 1-148th Infantry Battalion, first place; Spc. James Crawford, Detachment 1, 372nd Maintenance Company, second place; and Sgt. David Hunt, Company D, 1-148th Infantry, third place.

◆ **Rifle Excellence in Competition:** Spc. Jonathan Yacapraro, Company C, 1-148th Infantry, first place; Hunt, second place; Spc. Scott Wannemacher, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-

148th Infantry, third place.

◆ **Rifle Team Match:** Company C, 1-148th Infantry, first place; Detachment 1, 372nd Maintenance Company, second place; Company B 1-148th Infantry, third place.

◆ **Pistol Individual Match:** 1st Sgt. Douglas Garloch, Company C, 216th Engineer Battalion, first place; Sgt. Jeremy Landis, Company C, 1-148th Infantry, second place; Spc. Christopher Schrantz, 135th Military Police Company, third place.

◆ **Pistol Excellence in Competition:** Schrantz, first place; Sgt. Larry Motes, HHC 1-148th Infantry, second place; Chief Warrant Officer 2

Dana Osborne, Detachment 1, 372nd Maintenance Company, third place.

◆ **Pistol Team Match:** Detachment 1, 372nd Maintenance Company, first place; Company C, 1-148th Infantry, second place; 212th Missile Maintenance Company, third place

◆ **Sniper Individual Match:** Spc. Michael Pflieger, Company B, 1-148th Infantry, first place; Spc. Jerry Adams, Company D, 1-148th Infantry, second place; Sgt. Robert Baker, Company D, 1-148th Infantry, third place.

◆ **Sniper Team Match:** Company D 1-148th Infantry, first place.

The 2002 match take place June 14-15 at Camp Perry. The competition is open to all Ohio Guardmembers.

For more information, contact Chief Warrant Officer 2 Mike Konves, state marksmanship coordinator, at (419) 454-2181 or mkonves@aol.com. **SMALL ARMS READINESS TRAINING TEAM PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

School bus race offers new opportunity for soldier, unit

Normally behind the wheel racing a Porsche, Maj. Chip Henderson, executive/administrative officer for the 2-107th Cavalry Squadron, Kettering, (see related article on page 6) recently decided that another style of racing also could be fun.

"I saw an ad in the paper one day (for a bus race) and decided that it would be a good idea," he said. But it would be different this time. Often having been his own mechanic, crew chief, driver and sponsor, Henderson would have some help this time.

Last August at the Kil-Kare Speedway and Dragway near Xenia, Henderson climbed behind the wheel of his new ride—a full-size school bus, adorned in Army green and white lettering that would become a moving billboard for the Ohio Guard.

Squadron members Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Burger, Sgts. Doug Andrus and Jeff Romans volunteered their help in removing the windows and any breakable glass from the 44-passenger bus; the paint job was done with the utmost care.

"I had never driven a bus until that night," said Henderson, who roared around the figure-eight track, placing second among 13 entrants. All buses still running then competed in a demolition derby. While they didn't win the demo derby, Henderson and crew said they vow to return this fall. **MSG BOB MULLINS / 196TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT**



MSG Bob Mullins / 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

An old school bus decorated by members of 2-107th Cavalry Squadron and driven by MAJ Chip Henderson, squadron executive/administrative officer, provided a new advertising outlet for the Ohio National Guard when it was part of a bus race/demolition derby last fall at Kil-Kare Speedway and Dragway near Xenia.



Courtesy photo

180th Fighter Wing members Lt Col Lindsey Whitehead (left) and Maj Amy Whitehead both were 2002 Winter Olympic torch carriers.

Three Ohio airmen among Olympic torchbearers

To be one of about 11,500 people selected from more than 210,000 applicants to take part in the torch relay for the Olympic Games is a special privilege.

Three Ohio Air National Guardmembers were among the fortunate percentage who recently took part in transporting the torch on its 65-day, 13,500-mile journey through 46 states and arriving Feb. 8 in Salt Lake City for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

Master Sgt. Jeffrey A. Sallee of the 178th Fighter Wing, Springfield, ran a leg Jan. 3 in Dayton, while Maj. Amy Whitehead and Lt. Col. Lindsey Whitehead, both of the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, ran a quarter-mile leg Jan. 7 through downtown Ann Arbor, Mich.

"I had so many emotions that day, proud to represent my country, excited that my dream to carry the torch was real," said Sallee, who is assigned to the 178th Maintenance Squadron.

The Whiteheads were co-selected to be Olympic torchbearers through a nomination from Master Sgt. Kim Grimes, a fellow 180th member.



Sallee

"I feel that because the Olympics are in the U.S. and I get to be a part of that, it's even more of an honor to carry the torch...especially because we've spent 20 years in the military," Maj. Whitehead said.

Sallee and the Whiteheads were three of just 67 Ohioans to carry the torch for these Olympics.

"The torches were amazing," Mrs. Whitehead said. "They only weighed about three pounds each, but were very top heavy and got heavier as we ran by the people."

A veteran of more than 20 years of military service, Sallee said carrying the torch was a "very humbling" experience.

"I'm representing my family, Xenia, Ohio, the 178th Fighter Wing, all the branches of the military service and America," he said. "I must carry myself in a manner that will not bring discredit to the Olympics, the torch or everyone I'm representing, including my 1-year-old granddaughter, Haleigh J. Sallee."

"My inspiration comes from her. I want her to have pride and values growing up. My historical gift to her is my torch after the Olympic Games." MSGT EALNOR GREY / 178TH FIGHTER WING & MAJ TOM GEE / 180TH FIGHTER WING

Legislator recognizes soldier for for community service

One soldier who took his battalion commander's suggestion to become more involved in the community not only got a greater sense of self-worth, but was recently recognized for his work.

Capt. Max Brewer, of the 216th Engineer Battalion, headquartered in Hamilton, recently received an Ohio House of Representatives proclamation for his work helping to restore Hillcrest Veterans Cemetery Oct. 27 as part of "National Make-A-Difference Day."

Located near Cincinnati, the cemetery contains the remains of hundreds of Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II and Korean War veterans, most of whom are minorities. After years of neglect, the cemetery was in a deteriorated condition. In the spirit of the day, local organizations and churches sponsored "Restore Hillcrest Cemetery Day."

At the suggestion of Lt. Col. Joe Knott, 216th Battalion commander, Brewer, along with his sister and her daughter, drove down from Columbus and spent their Saturday conducting inventory of gravesites for federal recognition and fund-

ing for repair. They also located and identified unmarked graves where the headstones had been washed away.

"The event was a big success," Knott said. "Capt. Brewer and his family demonstrated the positive and community-oriented vision the Guard represents."

State Rep. Wayne Coates, who represents the Cincinnati area that includes Hillcrest Cemetery, presented Brewer with



Brewer

the proclamation in a December ceremony in Coates' downtown Columbus office.

"You have to get involved. More people need to get involved in the community," Brewer said. "I didn't do it searching for recognition. It's nice to be recognized, but I really do feel it's important to go out and get involved." STEVE TOTH / ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Trio's fast actions save life of fellow Army Guardmember

The quick thinking and emergency response of three soldiers from Headquarters, State Area Command, Columbus, saved the life of a guardmember during a physical fitness test in July.

Master Sgt. Robert Oberdier, Capt. Martin Norris and Sgt. Nancy McMillan were recognized as heroes for coming to the aid of Master Sgt. Larry Hale, a fellow soldier who had a heart attack at the unit's July drill. Nearly halfway through the 2.5-mile walk of his physical fitness test, Hale collapsed facedown on the running track.

"When we got to him we turned him over and saw his face was all scraped," said Norris, a medic with a Columbus area fire department in his civilian occupation. "I could tell he was in bad shape."

After finding only a weak pulse and observing Hale's inability to breathe on his own, the three soldiers began chest compressions accompanied by breathing assistance.

Worthington Fire Department medics arrived on the scene less than five minutes after being called and took over the task of rescuing Hale, who was then transported to an area hospital, where he underwent a quadruple bypass operation.

Norris, a five-year emergency medical veteran, said he believes Hale was lucky to have sustained the heart attack in close

proximity to several soldiers who were trained in CPR and a well-prepared fire station staff.

Norris said given Hale's lack of pre-arrest symptoms, that could have multiplied the danger more if he had been alone when the heart attack occurred.

"When I visited him in the hospital he told me he never felt any pain," Norris said. "It could have been worse if it hadn't happened where it did."

Oberdier, Norris and McMillan each were awarded the Ohio Distinguished Service Medal at a ceremony last year.

After a successful recovery period at home, Hale is back at work in the State Quality Office. SGT J.R. LEWIS / HQ STARC (-)

Talmage among Ohio Vets Hall of Fame inductees

Lance A. Talmage, Sr. made a name for himself in the Army. In fact, he liked the Army so much he decided to serve in all of its components—the active duty, Reserve and National Guard.

But on Nov. 8, Gov. Bob Taft honored Talmage, not for his military service, but for his outstanding service to the community when he was inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Class of 2001.

The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame was founded in 1992 to recognize Ohio citizens with military service who continued to make a difference in their communities

and state after honorable discharge. Ohio boasts the first Veterans Hall of Fame in the nation, and was joined by Arizona, in early 2001.

Talmage—a retired brigadier general and former commander of the Ohio Army Guard's deactivated 112th Medical Brigade—is active in the medical profession in his hometown of Toledo and throughout the state. He serves as medical director of the Center for Women's Health at the Toledo Hospital and is the past president of the Ohio State Medical Association. He is on the board for the Lucas County Domestic Violence Task Force and is a current delegate to the American Medical Association. SHANNON SCHERER / OHIO VETERANS HALL OF FAME

Enlistment spurs new branch on family military tree

Swearing new airmen into the Ohio Air National Guard is not an uncommon event, but in the enlistment of Airman Brett Douglas Green it was a matter of carrying on a family tradition.

As with most enlistees, Green was flanked by family members as he recited the oath of service, but in his case he was also surrounded by nearly 200 years of service to the Ohio National Guard.

His father, Maj. Douglas Green, with 28 years in the Ohio Army and Air National Guard, swore his son into his current unit of assignment, the 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield.

Brett's mother, retired Sgt. 1st Class Crystal Birkhold, and her husband, Chief Warrant Officer 4 David Birkhold, a 34-year veteran with Headquarters, State Area Command, watched the ceremony with pride.

The patriarch of the military observers, and possibly the proudest of all in attendance, was Brett's grandfather, retired Col. Robert Green,



Courtesy photo

Brett Green (fifth from left), flanked by several relatives, became the ninth member of his extended family to join the Ohio National Guard.

who probably could not have imagined when he started his 38 years with the Ohio National Guard in 1956 that it would be the beginning of three generations of dedicated service.

The branches on Brett's family military tree reach to his aunts, Col. Deborah Ashenhurst and Sgt. 1st Class Andrea Mahr, who serve in HQ STARC, with 23 years and 15 years respectively. His uncle, retired Col. James Ashenhurst, served 18 of his 23 years in the military with the Ohio Army Guard, and his cousin, Staff Sgt. James Ashenhurst, served for seven years in the Ohio Army Guard.

With this elaborate root system supporting Airman Green, his limb of the family tree should continue to grow. And with two younger brothers, Brett could be just the beginning of the third generation of service. ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Helicopter accident kills Guard pilot, father of five

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Bill Spence, 51, a pilot with Troop D, 2-107th Cavalry Squadron, North Canton, died in a helicopter accident Jan. 18.

The civilian medevac helicopter he was flying from a hospital in Cleveland to pick up a patient crashed, killing Spence, a flight nurse and injuring a medical attendant.

Spence, who joined the Ohio Army Guard in 1984, was a medical flight pilot for C.J. Systems Aviation Group.

He is survived by his wife, Kathleen, and five children. He will be sadly missed by all, including his Guard family. MAJ BARBARA HERRINGTON-CLEMENS / ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Honoring heroes of the past



SGT Tony Meldahl / Friends of the Tuskegee Airmen Association

The Friends of the Tuskegee Airmen Association—with membership consisting mainly of current Ohio Army National Guardmembers—sponsored an annual holiday party for Ohio's Tuskegee Airmen veterans and their families Dec. 22 at the Defense Supply Center-Columbus (DSCC). Pictured with Tuskegee Airman Don Cummings (center) are SGM Atrel Henderson (left), vice president, and WOC Edwin Robinson (right), president.

January military pay raise largest in two decades

Servicemembers saw an average increase of 6.9 percent in their January pay.

"It's the largest pay increase in 20 years," said Navy Capt. Chris Kopang, Defense Department director of compensation.

In general, officers saw their pay increase 5 percent, he said, and enlisted servicemembers got a 6 percent boost in their pay beginning Jan. 1. Several pay grades saw significantly larger increases.

"We have chosen to target the pay raise to certain pay grades that we feel needed an extra boost because of retention needs," Kopang said. For instance, officers in grades O-3 and O-4 received 6 and 6.5 percent increases respectively.

Noncommissioned officers also received larger raises, Kopang said, with the highest increases—up to 10 percent—going to the highest enlisted grades. Enlisted members in grades E-5 and E-6 saw an average 7.5 percent increase, E-7s an average increase of 8.5 percent, and up to 10 percent for E-9s.

President Bush in February 2001 pledged an additional \$1.4 billion to go toward pay raises for servicemembers. He signed the 2002 National Defense Authorization Act, which included the extra money, Dec. 28. Without this money, Kopang said, members would have gotten a 4.6 percent across-the-board increase at the New Year. **AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE**

Reserve Affairs provides help for those called up

So far, about 50,000 guardmembers and reservists have been called up to reinforce active-duty units participating in Operation Enduring Freedom. Some are freeing up active-duty servicemembers for overseas duty while others are being deployed overseas.

When Enduring Freedom started, reserve affairs officials composed a set of rules and guidelines giving units ideas and directives about the mobility process and their time on active duty.

The information is also available on the reserve affairs website at www.defenselink.mil/ra.

"We get a lot of questions from servicemembers and their families who are going through this very disruptive

Reserve Pay for 4 Drill Periods

Unofficial Copy (Effective Jan. 1, 2002)

YEARS OF SERVICE

	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
Grade															
O-10	1546.92	1546.92	1546.92	1546.92	1546.92	1546.92	1546.92	1546.92	1546.92	1546.92	1546.92	1546.92	1554.56	1586.84	1643.20
O-9	1353.00	1353.00	1353.00	1353.00	1353.00	1353.00	1353.00	1353.00	1353.00	1353.00	1353.00	1353.00	1372.48	1400.64	1449.84
O-8	957.33	988.72	1009.56	1015.32	1041.24	1084.68	1094.76	1135.96	1147.80	1183.24	1234.60	1281.96	1313.60	1313.60	1313.60
O-7	795.52	849.56	849.56	855.76	887.72	912.04	940.16	968.24	996.36	1084.68	1159.32	1159.32	1159.32	1159.32	1165.16
O-6	589.62	647.72	690.24	690.24	692.88	722.52	726.48	726.48	750.48	840.76	883.60	926.44	950.80	975.48	1023.36
O-5	471.60	553.68	592.04	599.24	623.08	623.08	641.80	676.44	721.80	767.44	789.20	810.64	835.04	835.04	835.04
O-4	403.16	490.92	523.68	531.00	561.40	586.12	626.16	657.36	679.00	700.76	708.08	708.08	708.08	708.08	708.08
O-3	372.88	422.72	456.24	493.16	516.76	542.68	564.32	592.16	606.60	606.60	606.60	606.60	606.60	606.60	606.60
O-2	322.16	366.92	422.60	436.84	445.88	445.88	445.88	445.88	445.88	445.88	445.88	445.88	445.88	445.88	445.88
O-1	279.68	291.08	351.80	351.80	351.80	351.80	351.80	351.80	351.80	351.80	351.80	351.80	351.80	351.80	351.80
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	493.16	516.76	542.68	564.32	592.16	615.60	629.00	647.36	647.36	647.36	647.36	647.36
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	436.84	445.88	460.04	484.00	502.52	516.32	516.32	516.32	516.32	516.32	516.32	516.32
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	351.80	375.76	389.64	403.80	417.76	436.84	436.84	436.84	436.84	436.84	436.84	436.84
W-5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	662.08	684.80	707.60	730.48
W-4	385.20	414.48	426.40	438.12	458.28	478.20	498.36	518.04	538.40	557.92	577.92	597.44	617.68	637.60	658.04
W-3	351.84	381.60	381.60	386.52	402.32	420.32	444.12	458.60	474.44	492.52	510.48	528.48	546.44	564.44	582.52
W-2	309.52	327.20	342.64	353.88	363.52	383.36	397.92	412.52	426.72	442.40	458.52	474.64	490.68	506.84	506.84
W-1	273.32	295.68	310.68	320.36	334.92	349.96	365.04	380.00	395.16	410.28	425.32	436.68	436.68	436.68	436.68
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	456.52	466.84	479.92	495.28	510.72	525.88	546.44	566.84	595.60
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	381.08	392.08	402.36	414.68	428.04	441.96	456.04	476.40	496.04	525.04
E-7	264.92	289.20	300.20	311.00	322.32	341.72	352.68	363.52	374.40	385.68	396.68	407.64	426.72	439.04	470.24
E-6	226.80	249.44	260.48	271.16	282.32	300.60	311.64	322.32	333.24	341.08	347.04	347.04	347.04	347.04	347.04
E-5	208.20	222.04	232.76	243.80	255.04	270.68	281.36	292.44	292.44	292.44	292.44	292.44	292.44	292.44	292.44
E-4	192.48	202.36	213.28	224.04	233.64	233.64	233.64	233.64	233.64	233.64	233.64	233.64	233.64	233.64	233.64
E-3	173.80	184.72	195.80	195.80	195.80	195.80	195.80	195.80	195.80	195.80	195.80	195.80	195.80	195.80	195.80
E-2	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24	165.24
E-1>4	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40	147.40
E-1<4	136.36	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

process," said Craig W. Duehring, principal deputy assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs. "To help them, we've created a family tool kit. This is also available on our website, where you'll find answers for virtually every issue that could possibly come up.

"There are answers for everything from pay questions to the duration of the mobilization, to whom do I contact if I have an emergency while the military member is gone. There's also information about handling problems before the servicemember is called up."

Mobilization pay and allowances are handled exactly the same way as for active-duty members. For example, guardmembers and reservists called up can take up to 30 days' advance pay to cover unexpected bills that might crop up before they have to leave. But, primarily, pay and allowance issues should be the same as those of active-duty members.

Duehring said members can pay back the 30-day advance in installments. **AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE**

Disney offers free admission for activated guardmembers, reservists

To honor American men and women fighting for freedom, the Walt Disney World Resort and the Disneyland Resort announced a program that allows active U.S. military personnel complimentary admission into Disney's U.S. theme parks, as well as ticket discounts

for family members and friends.

"Disney's Armed Forces Salute," which began Jan. 1, runs through April 30 and includes the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida and the Disneyland Resort in California. Active U.S. military personnel, with proper U.S. military identification, are eligible, including active members of the United States Coast Guard and activated members of the National Guard or Reservists.

For more information, or to make reservations, call (407) 939-7424. **WALT DISNEY PARKS AND RESORTS**

ONGSP APPLICATION DEADLINES

Fall term, July 1
Spring semester/Winter quarter, Nov. 1
Spring quarter, Feb. 1
Summer term, April 1

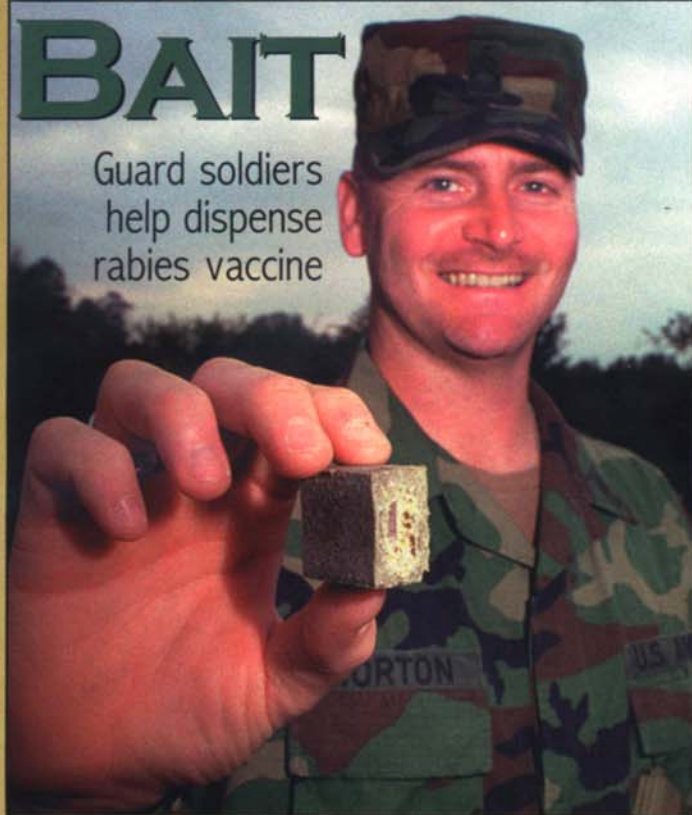
It is the sole responsibility of a student/guardmember to turn in a completed application to the **Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program** office, located at the Adjutant General's Department, 2825 West Dublin Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789, by the deadlines listed above.

This must be done prior to each term a student attends school.

For more information, call (614) 336-7032 or toll-free (888) 400-6484.

DROPPIN' BAIT

Guard soldiers
help dispense
rabies vaccine



Todd Cramer / Adj. Gen. Dept. Photo Lab

SFC Ron Norton holds a sample of the fishmeal bait used to distribute oral rabies vaccine to Ohio's raccoon population.

**Story by Spc. Michelle Morgan
HQSTARC (-)**

Vaccinating raccoons against rabies is not a glamorous job, where soldiers are cheered and heralded at the completion of their mission. However, the threat posed by rabid animals is very real, as was proven when a 3-year-old from the Youngstown area was bitten while riding his tricycle in his driveway in 1997.

"The infected raccoons are not the only danger," said Dr. Roger Krogwell, assistant state public health veterinarian with the Ohio Department of Health. "Other wildlife as well as domestic animals like cats and dogs may come in contact with a rabid animal which drastically increases the risk of human exposure."

"Not only does post-exposure treatment drive up medical expenses, it may be extremely

painful," he said.

To decrease the risk of exposure, in 1997 the Ohio Department of Health initiated an oral rabies vaccination program that swept the eastern border of Ohio, from Lake Erie to West Virginia, covering Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, Jefferson, Columbiana and parts of Harrison, Belmont, Monroe and Carroll counties. Working with other state and federal agencies and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, this year ODH expanded its coverage area to include parts of New York, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, to begin forming an immune barrier that will keep rabies from spreading back into Ohio.

Not one verified case has been discovered since 1999 and, though their plan is working, ODH needed additional help to keep Ohio safe. The call was made to the Ohio National Guard.

"We've had a problem with

many of the volunteers who quit after the first flight. They get tired or air sick and just give up," said the Ohio Department of Health's Bob Hale. "Working with the Guard is great because I can count on them to finish what they start."

"This year was even better because many of the volunteers from previous baitings returned, so they already knew what was expected."

Until 2000, it never occurred to Ohio Guardmembers who had taken an oath to protect citizens from all threats—foreign or domestic—that this would include protecting them from raccoons. However, 12 soldiers from the 1-107th Armor Battalion answered the call to state active duty for help.

"It felt really great to do something for my state," said Sgt. Edward Mains, of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-107th Armor Battalion, Stow. "It's not a fun job but it is necessary. I was a volunteer last year and will be again if they need me."

After the performance of the Guard, Hale said he plans to fill all of his flights with soldiers, if possible.

The actual vaccination process is fairly simple. The vaccine is placed in a fishmeal bait that may be distributed by crews on the ground or in the air. Conveyor belts running from the cockpit to the tail of Canadian-piloted Twin Engine Otter Planes drop the baits through a small hole in the bottom of the plane.

The planes are small, cramped and smell like dead fish. To effectively distribute the baits, they can only fly about 500 feet above the ground. According to Hale, combined, these conditions can make even the most

experienced flyers air sick.

In addition to all of the physical work and unpleasant conditions, this year the mission faced certain restrictions when the FAA grounded all flights on Sept. 11. Baiting teams were stranded, sometimes in other states, and had to work their way back to the Youngstown-Elser Metro Airport in North Lima. The bans on flying were lifted, only to be enforced again at later times.

"What should have taken eight days to complete took two weeks," Hale said. "We lost a couple of soldiers because they were activated (for homeland defense), but we really appreciated all of the help from the Guard."

Hale was not the only one to appreciate the hard work and efforts of the teams.

"It may not be the most prestigious or thankful job for soldiers, but my family is truly grateful," said Mahoning County resident Jochen Ridsen. "Until they began baiting, we had to worry about ourselves and our pets every time we even went near the woods. Now we can just enjoy ourselves." ■



Todd Cramer / Adj. Gen. Dept. Photo Lab

SPC Frank Montini (left) and Norton stock a conveyor belt with vaccine-filled bait that will be dropped in-flight.

Buckeye One helps further Hungarian partnership

PAGES 7-9



TSgt M. Randy Dunham / 179th Airlift Wing

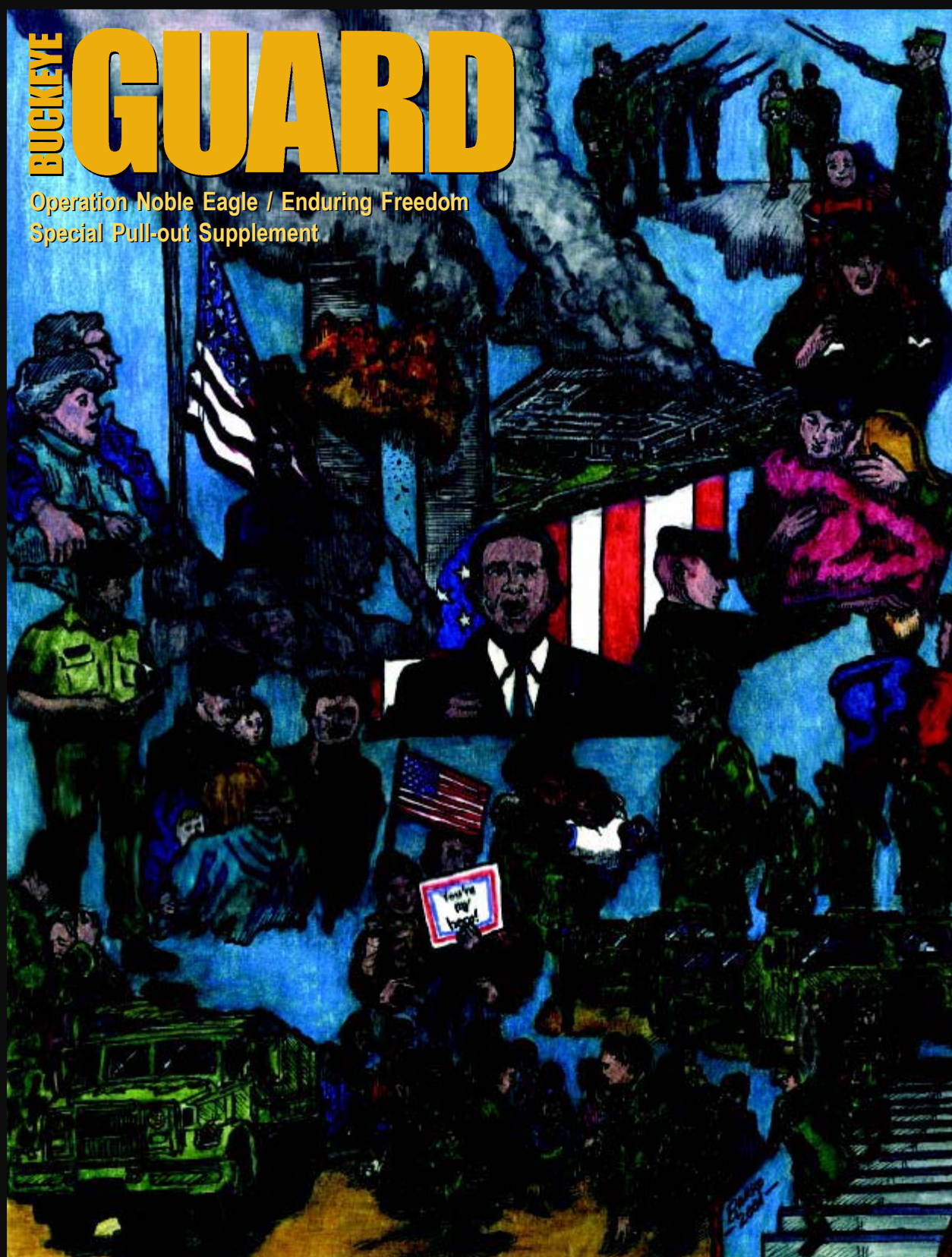
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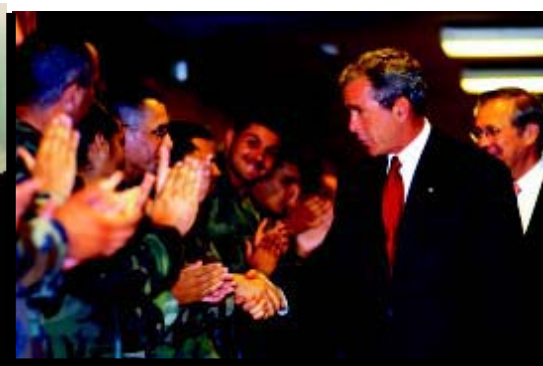
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United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.... We know it would have to come from a very high authority to shoot down an airliner full of American citizens," he said. "We were ready to do whatever we were tasked to do."

It was a sobering, real-world lesson for the students of the 178th's military schoolhouse. First Lt. Mike Driscoll of Daytona Beach, Fla., one of the student pilots who graduated in November, said the Sept. 11 attacks and U.S.-led airstrikes in Afghanistan made him reflect on how he might have to use his new skills.

"You realize what you're training for. You realize it could happen at any moment now. It brings back the realization of why you're here and what you signed up for," he said.

For Montecalvo, the reminder came on the morning of Sept. 11 when he heard the news of the attacks on his car radio as he was pulling out of his driveway in Cedarville. He pulled back in, went into his house and was "glued to the TV for the next two hours."

He had flown a night training flight on Monday night, so he wasn't due back at the 178th early, he said. But he soon got a call to report in, even as the base was going to its highest security level and sending most workers home. "Everyone on base was leaving and a few of us were trying to get in," he said. "We got the jets ready (although) we didn't know what kind of tasking order we were going to get," he said.

"We didn't know what was next. They were landing airplanes all over the country," he said.

The North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) ordered the combat air patrol that came down to the 178th. Montecalvo was not allowed to discuss specifics of the mission, but he said he took off in a flight of four F-16s about 2 p.m. Strapped into his cock-

pit and orbiting over an area he couldn't disclose, Montecalvo was cut off from the news flooding the airwaves. His radios were tuned to air traffic control frequencies, and they were eerily quiet. Except for an occasional medical helicopter with special clearance, his patrol was alone in the sky.

"It was very strange. The radios were quiet except for the controllers talking to us. We didn't talk to each other that much," he said. "We were up there...for about four hours. Just as we were leaving, there was another flight of F-16s coming in. The civilian controller on the ground said, 'On a personal note, all of us down here really appreciate what you guys are doing, and we're all going to sleep better tonight knowing you're up there protecting us.'"

The instructors talked to their students about the new war after Sept. 11, said Lt. Col. Tom Duke, the wing's chief of student training. The notion of shooting down a civilian airliner is "something that's never even been thought about before." Since about half of all Air National Guard pilots also fly for commercial airlines, "We could actually be tasked to shoot down one of our own pilots," he said.

But the flights since shortly after Sept. 11 have been for training or instructor proficiency, not combat patrols, according to Duke. And the wing's full-time training job means its fighter squadron, the 162nd, won't be deployed for combat. "We're much more worthwhile cranking out new (F-16) pilots," Duke said.

The new war and the new mission of homeland defense haven't blunted the pilots' eagerness. If anything, the sense of urgency had increased it.

Montecalvo said students graduating from the F-16 school are soberly aware of the dangers facing them as full-fledged fighter pilots. "We love flying and it is a lot of fun," he said, "but it's (also) a deadly serious business, and they realize that." **TIMOTHY R. GAFFNEY / DAYTON DAILY NEWS**

Sept 22, 2001



121st Air Refueling Wing authorized to mobilize

Columbus' 121st Air Refueling Wing was the first unit from the Ohio National Guard to receive authorization to mobilize as part of President George W. Bush's call for the National Guard and Reserve to support America's war against terrorism.

Pre-mobilization processing took place in late September, to include medical screenings, record updates and issue of chemical warfare equipment. More than 400 unit members were identified and are prepared to deploy at a moment's notice.

As of mid-January, more than 40,000 mandays have been expended in support of Noble Eagle operations from home station at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base. Operations, logistics and support personnel have deployed to Turkey, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and France for Operation Enduring Freedom and Aerospace Expeditionary Force commitments.

The 121st ARW's primary mission is to provide aerial refueling to U.S. Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps, and allied aircraft. The unit has flown refueling missions virtually nonstop since Sept. 11, flying 20 percent of all refueling missions accomplished in the United States.

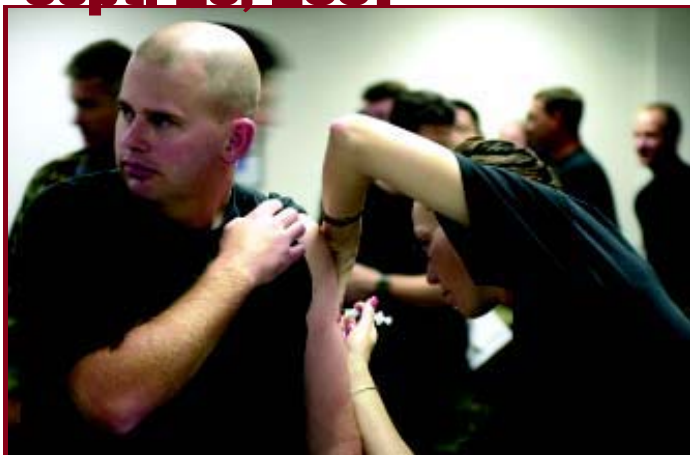
In recent years, unit members have supported Operations Desert Storm, Deny Flight, Joint Endeavor, Northern Watch and Southern Watch. **AGOH-PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

ABOUT THE COVER

"When Duty Calls...We will not tire, we will not falter and we will not fail," a sketch by SGT Bob Barko Jr. of the Headquarters, State Area Command Public Affairs Section, is a montage inspired by the tragedies of Sept. 11, and the subsequent presidential call-up of up to 50,000 reservists to support Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. Most of the images are from actual deployment send-offs of Ohio National Guard soldiers and airmen.



Sept. 25, 2001



251st Combat Com Group supports USAFE's Air Operations Center

About 20 members of the 251st Combat Communications Group, Springfield, were called to active duty in late September, and later deployed to Germany, where they are expected to remain for at least 12 months.

The mission of the 251st CCG is to provide the design and implementation of plans for all types of communications systems the Air Force may need to accomplish its missions, including secure and unsecure computer networks, satellite communications and phone service.

The deployed airmen are working directly in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Northern Watch, and also managing assets for Operation Joint Guardian and Joint Forge (both Balkan operations), according to Chief Master Sgt. Chris Muncy, 251st Combat Communications Group. One member is working in Brussels, Belgium, in the NATO Headquarters as a frequency manager.

While some unit members are working in the U.S. Air Force-Europe (USAFE) Network Operations Security Center, the majority work underground in the command center of the USAFE Theater Air-Operations Support Center, Muncy said. **MAJ ANN COGLIN / 178TH FIGHTER WING**

123rd ACS

The 123rd Air Control Squadron, Blue Ash, provided airspace surveillance to supplement regular FAA/NORAD radar coverage immediately following the events of Sept. 11, and has continued to support these duties as operations tempo requires, on a volunteer basis.

Guard called to assist

Timothy Haskamp wasn't dissuaded against re-enlisting in the Ohio Army National Guard after the Sept. 11 attacks on America.

Even though he felt the Guard would be activated in some capacity, Spc. Haskamp, a member of the 324th Military Police Company, Middletown, once again signed on for more service.

"Yesterday was my original ETS date," said Haskamp, a married federal security guard with two children, referring to the date he was originally scheduled to end his military service contract.

Just days before, President Bush asked the nation's governors to use the National Guard to augment commercial airport security; this included about 150 soldiers from the 324th and the 838th MP Company, Youngstown.

"This is the reason I joined—not for college or the money," Haskamp said.

No matter what prompted soldiers to take the oath, they were called on by Ohio Gov. Bob Taft to provide an armed presence in support of private security at airports in Columbus, Dayton, Cleveland, Toledo, Akron-Canton and Youngstown beginning Oct. 5.

As the soldiers prepared for their mission, the Youngstown and Middletown armories were beehives of activity. In addition to drawing weapons and attending mission briefs, the newly activated soldiers went through a full gamut of paperwork—including medical records screenings, legal and military record reviews, as well as edu-



SPC Nick Marconi, 324th MP Company, directs travelers at the Port Columbus International Airport to prepare belongings for examination.



airport security

Sept. 28, 2001

cation services and family support briefings.

"It's overwhelming trying to get everything taken care of with work and home," Haskamp said. "But the unit has helped out, and given us and our families a lot of support and information."

Once the paperwork was complete, soldiers received 16 hours of classroom instruction from Federal Aviation Administration officials in addition to on-site training at their assigned airports.

Task Force Commander Lt. Col. Rick Hall told the soldiers just before the start of their FAA training that this assignment would be a change from the norm.

"This is the most high-profile job you'll have in the National Guard," Hall said. "The president wants you in these airports because of what you offer to the American public."

"We feel it is a great honor to be chosen for the task of restoring confidence to the public," said Capt. Dan Barrett, 838th MP Company commander, whose soldiers reinforce security at airports in northeast Ohio. He said he feels confident in the ability of the soldiers to perform the tasks assigned.

According to Capt. Dave Lambert, interim commander of the 324th, the mission suits the MPs' training in identifying possible threats. "It's not law enforcement, but the mission has law enforcement aspects," he said.

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, the FAA has asked the Defense Department to coordinate the use of about 5,000 National Guardmembers at 422 airports across the nation. This will give the federal government time to create a new federal law enforcement entity responsible for aviation security.

Airport security staff and officials have been very grateful for the National Guard support in their airports. "The additional presence of the Guard, the show of more security makes the public more confident in the airways," said Steve Bowser, deputy aviation director at the Youngstown-Warren Regional Airport.

Many travelers agreed with Bowser's assessment. "I think it's fantastic," said Heather Miller, a frequent corporate flyer who lives in Boardman. "Under the circumstances, we need the added protection the National Guard is providing."

Although the initial outlook forecasted the soldiers to be on duty anywhere from six months to a year, no firm time-frame had been set, military officials said.

"We're more than ready to handle this," said Cpl. Jeremy Shearer, the 324th's company clerk. "We've got the right personnel and our guys have the right attitude and are enthusiastic about fulfilling the mission." SGT J.R. LEWIS AND SPC MICHELLE MORGAN / HQ STARC (-)

Military police provide state-side security

Approximately 350 soldiers—about 150 members each from the 135th Military Police Company, Brook Park, and 323rd Military Police Company, Toledo—were called to augment existing security at U.S. Army installations.

"The mission is one of taking over law and order at Fort Bragg for now," said 135th 1st Sgt. Wade Johnson.

According to Capt. James McCandless, commander of the 135th, the unit may receive a subsequent mission tasking after its initial 12-month activation is completed. "Things remain undetermined whether we will stay at Bragg or follow on to go someplace else," he said.

"We are about to embark on a mission which will ensure the security and hope of a nation in peril," said 323rd Commander Capt. Jeffrey Watkins during the unit's send-off ceremony Oct. 11. "We are up to that challenge."

Soldiers admitted leaving home is difficult, but they also found comfort in fulfilling a mission considered essential for national security. Sgt. Jacquelin Cover, a 323rd MP who has a 1 1/2-year-old son said, "I'm glad to do my part so that my son will grow up in a free society and I will have had something to do with that."

The 135th and 323rd were supplemented with members of the 838th Military Police Company, Youngstown, and the 324th Military Police Company, Middletown. 196TH MOBILE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DETACHMENT

Security forces protect home station, AF bases

Master Sgt. David Marcum was mowing the lawn when he received the call saying he'd been activated. But the civilian police officer wasn't surprised. "I knew this was a possibility," said the 178th Fighter Wing member. "I'm prepared. I deployed to Desert Storm, so I knew what to expect."

Marcum is just one of about 300 Ohio Air National Guard security forces activated throughout September and October to support homeland defense operations; also included were airmen from Columbus' 121st Air Refueling Wing, Mansfield's 179th Airlift Wing and Toledo's 180th Fighter Wing.

While all four Ohio wings were activated to increase security at their home stations, some teams were deployed to enhance security at Air Force bases in locations such as Maryland, Alabama and the Carolinas. One contingent of 121st security forces conducted transport missions of Taliban and al-Qaida prisoners.

Members of Marcum's squadron understand the sacrifices associated with military service.

Senior Airman Kassandra Enright, a sophomore at the University of Cincinnati, is putting her education on hold due to the activation. "The Guard is my first priority and my first concern. I will finish college and it will be paid for 100 percent thanks to the Guard. I am honored to have this opportunity to give back."

Tech. Sgt. Marc Smith knows that leaving loved ones can be difficult. "I was away from my family a lot on active duty," he said. "It is always challenging, by they understand my role in the military." SSGT SHANNON PARKS / 178TH FIGHTER WING



Oct. 3, 2001 1-148th Infantry called for homeland defense

Soldiers and families stood in front of the Delaware armory, dazed at the spectacle across the street. Hundreds of children had just filed out of their classrooms and lined the sidewalks in front of the usually stoic, brick school building. The fifth and sixth graders from Willis Middle School waved American flags, held up signs that said, "We're proud of you!" and chanted "USA! USA!"

"It's amazing," said Lucy Jeffery who, wrapped in her husband's arms, seemed as much a part of his uniform as the nameplate sewn above his pocket.

"That's some kind of send-off," agreed Spc. Jim Jeffery, member of Company C, 1-148th Infantry Battalion. "It makes you feel proud about what you're doing."

Exactly what Jeffery and more than 100 members of his unit were doing wasn't quite clear that day, Oct. 9, though they all knew they were headed to Fort Knox, Ky., where they would be given missions to support Noble Eagle, the military's operation for home-

land defense. Their initial tour of duty could last up to one year.

Of the more than 1,400 Ohio National Guard troops that have been deployed since Sept. 11, nearly 600 soldiers are from the 1-148th Infantry Battalion.

Mobilization processing began just days before their departure, accompanied by shots, medical screenings, legal briefings and supply issues. Soldiers had to prepare and pack all necessary unit equipment for their next duty station—one of five Midwest sites selected by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and approved by Army Forces Command.

During the emotional unit send-off ceremony, Adjutant General Maj. Gen. John H. Smith emphasized that since the horrific attacks on the nation, much of the military's efforts will remain in the United States. "For many decades now, America has looked outward with respect to its national interests—as it's worked other lands and other skies—but today's reality is we need to protect our own homeland."

Col. Matt Kambic, commander of the 37th Armor Brigade, mirrored these thoughts, asserting that the 1-148th is taking on a significant responsibility in protecting American soil. "(This mission) is new," he said. "We spent most of our careers preparing to go 'over there.'"

"There's not a better cause," said Maureen O'Brien, wife of C Company Commander Capt. Neal E. O'Brien. "We feel a lot of pride knowing that they're doing something to help."

But pride wasn't the only emotion present that day. Fear, anxiety and anguish also could be seen in family members' eyes as they prepared to say good-bye.

Nancy Truex, whose son Mark received an honorable discharge from active duty in April 2001, begged her son not to rejoin the military after the tragic events of Sept. 11. Truex, an interstate truck driver, was 60 miles from New York City when the twin towers were hit. When he returned to Ohio, he scheduled a meeting with a recruiter.

"When the haircut came home," Nancy said, "I knew what

that meant." Truex signed the enlistment papers on Sept. 14 and spent the next day drilling with Charlie Company.

A phone alert Oct. 1 told unit members to report to the Delaware armory Oct. 3. Truex, who was in Tacoma, Wash., at the time, got word from an e-mail from his mom. "It said to call home immediately, so I knew something was going on," he recalled.

Though Truex enlisted knowing federal activation was probable, he didn't expect it so soon. So, like anyone leaving the comforts of

home for a year, the MP-turned-infantryman made some life adjustments.

"I just got engaged today," he announced proudly the morning of the send-off ceremony. Truex said he and his girlfriend, Rachel, had talked about getting married, but they weren't able to manage it on such short notice. "I wanted to show my promise to her, so I went ahead and got her a ring."

Like Truex, other soldiers were affected by the harsh reality of having to leave loved ones behind.

"This kind of moved things up for us," said Spc. Chris Christman, who married his fiancée of three months, Kris, on Oct. 5. Christman's new family not only included a wife, but also a 6-year-old stepson, Sean.

Another son, Jax Scally, had to say "bye-bye" to his dad just one day after his second birthday.

Units Deployed:

Company A
Xenia

Company B
Bowling Green

Company C
Delaware

Company D
North Canton

Company E
Urbana

HHC
Lima



Charlie Company, 1-148th Infantry, begins its convoy to Fort Knox, Ky.

Other missions

Selected soldiers from Company B, 2-19th Special Forces Group, and Company D, 137th Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Battalion, both Columbus-based units, were called up in the president's partial mobilization.



"We've tried to explain it to him," said Staff Sgt. Jim Scally, who ironically spent nearly four years in the 82nd Airborne without ever being deployed. "I think he knows I'm in the Army and knows I'm going away for a while. But I really don't think he can understand the scope of it all."

"It's hard. It's really hard to be away for up to a year," Scally said. "That's half his life right now."

Capt. O'Brien also left two young children behind at home—2-year-old Connor and 10-year-old Maura.

He admitted to getting goose

bumps when President Bush told U.S. servicemembers to "Be ready" during his Sept. 20 address to the nation.

"Since then, I think anyone wearing the uniform realized federal activation was a real possibility, though that acceptance doesn't always translate to the servicemember's family," O'Brien said. "There's a fine line between who's happy and who's sad, but everybody supports us, and that's what is important." SFC DIANE L. FARROW / HQ STARC (-)



RIGHT: SSG Jim Scally steals a kiss from his 2-year-old son Jax.

Fort Knox training preps infantrymen for missions in Midwest

As the events of Sept. 11 unfolded, there was no doubt that some sort of military response would result. How quick of a response? No one knew. Who were we looking for? Would there be more attacks? Question upon question haunted the nation.

What was never in question was the readiness of the American soldier to respond. In early October, with the power of President Bush's call for up to 50,000 reserve servicemembers, the 1-148th Infantry Battalion (Mechanized) gathered for the defense of the United States.

"As a national guardsman you are prepared to serve a dual role. One is the call to serve our governor and the people of Ohio during times of need. The other role is to defend our nation from enemies foreign and domestic," said Master Sgt. Lawrence Malloy, of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-148th, Lima. "In this case we have been called to defend our land, just like our forefathers, on our own soil."

For the first time since 1952, the 1-148th Infantry Battalion mobilized for federal service. Unlike the mobilization nearly 50 years ago, this mission called for defense efforts on American ground. Active-duty soldiers from Fort Knox's 4th Brigade, 85th Division provided 1-148th soldiers with the additional training required for this nontraditional warfare.

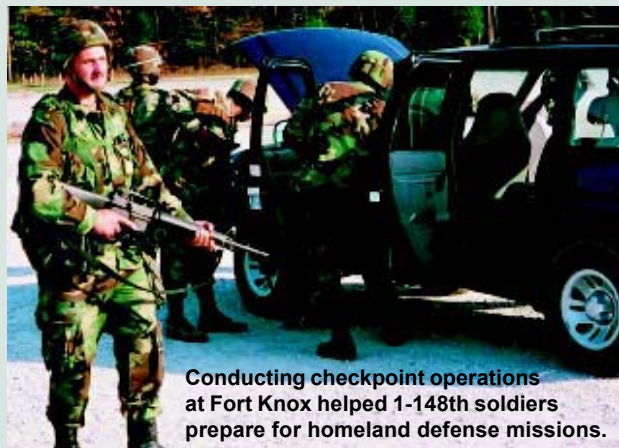
"These troops are not being sent to the battlefield," Maj. Jacqueline Hillian-Craig, 4-85th public affairs officer said. "We are playing by a new set of rules," she said, noting that new training tactics are required to defend against an unknown and unseen enemy.

Homeland Security and Support Operations training (SASO) and Homeland Security Individual Readiness Tasks (H-SIRT) were mandatory events for validating the units' effectiveness and readiness for future homeland operations. H-SIRT training included searching vehicles and personnel, responding to demonstrations, NBC (Nuclear, Biological, Chemical) reaction scenarios and overall understanding of the rules of force. SASO training took place at Knox's Mounted Urban Combat Training site, a mock city where troops learn to conduct military operations in an urban environment. The units were evaluated on their response times, techniques and overall handling of very real situations.

"It's really tough training. We train to kill an enemy. Now we are training for the different situations we may face here in the states," said 1st Lt. Pedro Casiano, of C Company, 1-148th, Delaware.

Capt. Stuart Hatfield, operations officer for the 4-85th, said despite the difficulties of transitioning from a reserve status, the soldiers have held up well. "They have gone from National Guard status to active-duty status and left their families, and made the sacrifice for their country," Hatfield said. "Many of them have taken a pay cut and they have done it without hesitation."

Sgt. Jesse Stock of C Company, 1-148th, was two days into his first job in sales and marketing at a Central Ohio golf course when he got called to active duty. "The hardest part of being here is being away from my family," Stock said. "But I believe it's my obligation to be here because of what happened on Sept. 11. However long it takes, I'll serve my country." CPT ANDY ANDERSON / HHC, 1-148TH INFANTRY BATTALION & SPC STACIE MITSCHKE / FORT KNOX



Conducting checkpoint operations at Fort Knox helped 1-148th soldiers prepare for homeland defense missions.